

## 'PLEASE LOOK AT US'

**NOTE:** To be called to minister to a people, and yet be unable to work among them, is a terrible thing. But that situation faces Southern Baptist representatives in Cyprus. Banned from living in Lebanon since 1987 by the U.S. government, they have tried to maintain contacts there by telephone or writing. In the last year or so, not even the telephones have worked. The following is a reflection by Southern Baptist representative Emmett Barnes on a letter he received from a young Lebanese woman.

LARNACA, Cyprus (BP) — A letter just arrived from Lebanon.

It's from a young lady we do not know.

From the envelope, I can see that her name is Amal and that she lives in an area that was badly damaged in fighting there in the past several years. The letter opens in the ancient Christian greeting: "In the name of the Father, and the Son and the Holy Ghost, Amen."

I could see immediately that it was written in poor English, but this may indicate nothing of the writer's educational level. English is probably her third language. Lebanon's official languages are Arabic and French. But many speak some English.

The next line was confusing: "To the speak of God name." Was this a bit of praise to God? Perhaps it meant "to the proclamation of God's name." Or it could have been calling on the name of God to emphasize that the content of the letter is trustworthy. The letter is a bit clearer from that point.

"My name is Amal Aharayeh," she wrote. "We are a family consist of eight children with my mother. My father was dead because he was very ill and we can't help him to took him doctor because we are very poor. We haven't any money to bought the medicals to him. In spite of this the war came and damaged our house a year ago."

The picture emerges. A poor family is facing the winter with no housing. They may be able to take care of immediate needs like food, but are not able to restore their house.

"In the name of God if you can help us to build our house to protect us from the cold weather because my mother is very ill and we haven't any relatives to stay in your house or to help us in any thing."

In the Middle East, the family is everything. It is the source of strength and protection. People have no other place to turn. For this reason the Bi-

ble often speaks of taking care of the widows and orphans. And now the young woman is calling on us to recognize their need and help in the repair of the house.

"We are very thanks to you. Please send to me the answer because we are very need to this help."

Of course this is not just one-way correspondence. Amal would like an answer. What shall I say?

"I am sorry about my language is not good."

Language is no problem here. I can understand clearly. And with the imposed humility of one who speaks broken Arabic, I certainly will not laugh at her English.

"Peace of God to you."

The blessing of peace. This young woman probably has seen more war than almost all of us. I wonder where she and her family were hiding when the shells were falling.

Then comes a quote from the Bible: "So then as often as we have the chance we should do good to everyone and especially to those who belong to our family in the faith (Galatians 6:10)."

At this point words are poor tools to convey what turmoil I feel within. If I could communicate in good English as well as Amal has expressed herself in her broken variety, I would. However, my feelings are so personal that I hesitate to talk about them.

But you must see that I realize in the depth of the purpose of God that the letter is from a member of my family. Amal was an unknown relative of mine — until now. This is "our family in the faith."

Amal closed with this note: "The picture is our house. Please look at us. Thanks. Amal Aharayeh."

The picture enclosed shows a woman, probably Amal's mother, standing by a badly damaged single-story building. The interior walls seem to be holding up a concrete slab roof, but the external walls are gone, so far as I can see.

But the devastation is in my heart as I read the appeal, "Please look at us."

Through my tear-filled eyes and smudged glasses, I can see a woman who is about my age. She is clean, neatly dressed and composed, although standing in the rubble of her home. This is my sister, whom I did not know, with problems that I did not realize.

"Please look at us." Yes, Amal, I have been looking in other directions in recent days. Now, my niece, how can I do other than to look at you?

## RA chapter's bid to buy bikes results in building a church

DALLAS (BP) — The Royal Ambassadors at Memorial Church in Baytown, Texas, just wanted to collect enough money to buy a couple of bicycles for Baptist pastors in Kenya. Instead, they raised enough to build a church.

In early December, Memorial's RA director Wendell Romans and Minister of Recreation and Activities Stan Sullinger were discussing how their church could join the statewide effort to provide bikes for Kenyan pastors.

Early in 1990, missionary Ralph Bethea had told Texas Baptist Men leaders that Kenyan ministers urgently needed two-wheelers for basic transportation. Texas RAs accepted the challenge to raise money to buy bikes for 150 pastors in Kenya at \$150 each.

The RAs parked a bicycle in the foyer at Memorial Church and posted a sign announcing a January "bike-a-thon" to raise the needed \$300.

Before the end of December, RA leaders collected the \$300 and had enough money for an additional 10 bikes.

Sullinger called the Texas Baptist Men's office in Dallas to tell state leaders another check would be in the mail soon. However, he was surprised to learn that the statewide goal for the bicycle project already had been exceeded and all needs had been met.

"I was told that money was needed to build churches there next summer," said Sullinger. "And the cost was \$1,500 each — exactly the amount we had raised."

# The Baptist Record

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## Artists perform at festival

The Mississippi Christian Performing Arts Festival, held Feb. 15-16 at Calvary Church, Jackson, drew about 175 participants. Top left, Misty Miller of Emmanuel Church, Pearl, is made up into a clown by Mrs. Ernie Liebig of Bullard, Texas. Above, Dana Nelson of Agricola Church, a member of the "Conquistadors," performs for the other participants. At left, a troupe of clowns "builds a home." And below, the Teenage Mutant Christian Turtles perform. They were known as the "first hardshell Baptists." The meeting was sponsored by the Discipleship Training Department, and the Church Music Department, MBCB. (Photos by Tim Nicholas)





# EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK

Guy Henderson

## Missions: giving people hope

The Annie Armstrong Easter Offering is essential to reaching our nation with the Gospel message. The theme is based on Romans 15:13 (TEV): "May God, the source of hope, fill you with all joy and peace by means of your faith in him, so that your hope will continue to grow by the power of the Holy Spirit."

The Home Mission Board is now working in 50 states, Puerto Rico, Samoa, Canada, and the Virgin Islands. There are 3,808 missionaries under appointment and 1,260 Mission Service volunteers. Last year, 1,369

students served as summer missionaries.

It would be unfortunate to have these trained dedicated workers and have an insufficient operating budget. In Mississippi we have HMB missionaries working in language work, ethnic ministries, Choctaw churches, seamen centers, and other ministries.

We are in the midst of the week of prayer. It's not too late for you to have a part in a cause to serve our nation. The goal is \$41,000,000. We have 14,500,000 Southern Baptists. More im-

portant is our concern to do together what we cannot do alone.

Our cities seemingly are being abandoned in the flight to suburbia. Presently 75 percent of Americans live in metropolitan areas and only 43 percent of our churches are there. Major attention of the HMB is now being directed toward future missions efforts in large metropolitan areas. Our nation is a mission field where the need is great. There are so many without hope, and despair is sure to follow. Missions is indeed giving, and giving people hope.

## The most "churched" county in the world

That distinction may well belong to Calhoun County in north central Mississippi. The population is 14,908, and it has 50 Southern Baptist churches. That is one church for every 298 people.

There are places in the world where we do not have a Baptist church for every 50 million people. There are places in the USA where it is one church for every 100,000 people. Calhoun County is not over-churched; its residents have just done a good job reaching their area.

Wayne Gullett is the director of missions there, and in his office is a map of the county with pictures of the churches. Admittedly, some are tiny.

Others are carrying on ministries that would be a credit to churches of any size.

For instance, the churches sponsor a food pantry through the association office for the needy. Last summer, they promoted an extensive back yard Bible Club ministry.

First Church, Vardaman, has an evangelistic outreach for Spanish-speaking farm workers. On Saturday nights, another Spanish class meets in the association office in Calhoun City. Future plans call for a mission for the Spanish-speaking people.

Many of the churches participated in the simultaneous revivals, and baptisms were up in the association. New Liberty Church, with 240 resident

members, baptized 23 persons and Duncan Hill, with 120 members, baptized 19 persons. First, Calhoun, recently had 25 members involved in a one day soul-winning seminar.

First, Bruce, has a Sunday School homebound department director, Lucille Cannon, who teaches the weekly lesson over the telephone. The association is also involved in revival ministries in Alaska this year.

More than half of the churches are receiving the Baptist Record through the Every Family plan. Eighty-four percent of the church families receive the paper. This week, we salute the fine churches of Calhoun County and their worldwide vision.

## Leavell: "Get on with the job"

By Breana Kent Paine

NEW ORLEANS (BP) — "As long as Baptists stay right with the book in our belief in it and our practice of it as best we can, I will be a Baptist until the day I die," Landrum P. Leavell II said during a recent chapel service at New Orleans Seminary.

Offering reasons "Why I Am a Southern Baptist," the seminary president told students and faculty, "My personal sense of integrity permits me to accept no authority other than the Lordship of Jesus Christ — not a board, not a council, not a group, not a self-appointed individual . . . I look to nothing other than the inspired Word of God. It is our sole rule for faith and practice."

Although he was raised in a Southern Baptist family, Leavell has studied the doctrines of many other denominations. "If I could find another denomination that I believed honestly, candidly was closer to the New Testament than Baptists are, I would consider becoming a member of that group. But I've not been able to find such."

"I remain a Baptist," he said, "because I am convinced that we're aligned with the Word of God. Now, we don't always live like it. I'm not here today to tell you that Southern Baptists are perfect, . . . but we're closer to the New Testament than any other group I know anything about."

In addition, having studied in Southern Baptist institutions and now serving as president of one, Leavell said he is convinced, in the words of evangelist Billy Graham, "the Cooperative Program is the greatest means ever devised by a church for distributing one's tithe."

"Why are we able to offer fully accredited masters' and doctors' degrees with no tuition costs? Because Southern Baptists through the years, being a missions-minded people, have said continually, those who are called out of our churches we are obligated to educate."

"Our schools, our hospitals, our seminaries, our homes for the aged, our children's homes, our universities, all stand in mute testimony of the blessings of God upon Southern Baptists."

"Those blessings will continue in direct proportion to your faithfulness as you go out from these halls into ministry," Leavell continued. "Whether our denomination fragments, or flakes off, or splits, or whatever, is largely going to be a result of the stance that you take and a reflection of the appreciation you have for what has been provided for you."

"I'm a Baptist also because of the constant emphasis on reaching human beings with the gospel for the

sake of the Lord Jesus Christ," he added. "Why should a preacher ever be down-hearted? The whole world is out there waiting."

"I've been a pastor of feuding, fussing Southern Baptist churches. I know what it's like. But you bring enough new people in there through their faith in Jesus Christ, and with the excitement of conversion, I guarantee you it will transform a congregation," said Leavell, who has been pastor and interim pastor in churches throughout Louisiana, Mississippi, and Texas. "If you have troubled baptismal waters, the chances are you're not going to have a troubled membership."

"We've grown strong as Southern Baptists with a steady diet of evangelism and missions. No other denomination anywhere can match our record in these categories across many, many years. Southern Baptists have characteristically been the fastest growing denomination with the greatest missionary outreach."

However, he continued, "Just as surely as we continue to feud and fuss, point fingers and call names, God's going to take his hand off of us, and God's going to find a group that will be obedient to him, even though they may not be as close to the New Testament as we say we are. God's not going to wait around on us all day."

(See JOB on page 5)

## "LORD, TEACH US TO PRAY" LUKE 11:1



Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. JAMES 4:8

LUKE 18:1 Men ought always to pray, and not to faint.

Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them. MARK 11:24

Lord, all my desire is before thee. PSALM 38:9

JAMES 5:16 The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.

PSALM 145:18 The LORD is nigh unto all them that call upon him, to all that call upon him in truth.

PSA. 55:16 As for me, I will call upon God; and the LORD shall save me.

I THES. 5:17, 18 Pray without ceasing. In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.

PSALM 70:5 I am poor and needy: make haste unto me, O God: thou art my help and my deliverer; O LORD, make no tarrying.

JACK HAMM

## Cleaner highways

It's always pleasant to drive down a clean highway. The "Adopt-a-Highway" anti-litter signs are paying off.

I'm also pleased when I see the Baptist Church has signed up for the next two miles. However, this backfires when you see where a Baptist church is responsible for a section of the highway and it turns out to be one of the worst. One church-sponsored section I recently drove had litter scattered for miles, and several things gave evidence it had been there for a long time.

This gives reverse testimony to all of us. Please, if your church name is on the sign, see to it that the cleanest

part of the highway will be your two miles.

A few years ago in a small Mississippi town, there was a particular corner downtown that was barren, walked over, unsightly, and a garbage dump. The RA group took it on as a project. They brought in old crossties, barnyard fertilizer, rose bushes, and box hedge. They really transformed the place and made it a pleasant scene. The entire town began to take pride in its appearance. What a testimony!

Watch those blue signs. When the name goes on, make sure the quality continues.

## 1990 SBC statistical highlights

- 31 state conventions experienced increases in baptisms.
- New England led the SBC in number of baptisms per 100 persons in Sunday School.
- No baptisms were indicated by 5,727 churches.
- The number of churches increased by 189 compared to 218 in 1989.
- Sixty percent of churches have less than 300 members.
- City churches (population 2,500 or more) numbered 15,426. There are 14,794 open country churches.
- Non-resident membership totals 4,480,919 or 28.9 percent of total membership. Total membership is now 15,044,413.
- The number of members received from non-Baptist churches exceeded those lost to non-Baptist churches by a total of 18,125 (64,187 versus 46,062).
- There are 758 churches broadcasting worship services on TV; 13,378 churches have a weekly evangelistic visitation and 20,758 participated in Here's Hope revival, and 8,062 churches now using a computer for record keeping.

— United Church Letters, BSSB

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# EMPOWERED!

## Woman's Missionary Union Annual Meeting

March 18-19 First Church, Jackson



Paul and Hannah Gay

Boudreaux

Graves

### MONDAY

1:45 Instrumental Call to Worship Judy Arrington and James Arrington Goff

2:00 **RELYING ON THE HOLY SPIRIT AS THE SOURCE OF POWER**  
PRISCILLA — A Woman Who Relied on the Holy Spirit  
Group Hymns Deborah Brunt  
Welcome and Prayer Led by Gwen Keys Hitt  
Organization Frank Pollard  
Stuart Calvert  
EMPOWERED — to be Partners Evelyn Tully, Sandy Wisdom and Carol Reese  
Jean Bond  
Business Led by Gwen Keys Hitt  
Group Hymns  
Special Music  
RELYING ON THE HOLY SPIRIT IN ETHIOPIA Paul and Hannah Gay  
Led by Gwen Keys Hitt  
Group Music  
WOMEN EMPOWERED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT  
TODAY  
Prayer Dellanna O'Brien Ray Grissett

### MONDAY

6:45 Instrumental call to worship Judy Arrington and James Arrington Goff

7:00 Medley of Mission Songs  
**RECLAIMING THE MEANING OF MISSIONS**  
EUNICE — A Woman Who Learned About Missions  
Group Hymns Deborah Brunt  
Prayer Led by Gwen Keys Hitt  
Louie Odum  
THE MEANING OF MISSIONS Wana Ann Fort  
Group Hymns Led by Gwen Keys Hitt  
Special Music GA Choir  
MY WORLD AND MISSIONS Mildred McWhorter  
Group Hymns Led by Gwen Keys Hitt  
Offertory Prayer Mary Belle Lundquist  
THE MEANING OF MISSIONS TO ACTEENS Emily Dossett, Suzannah White, and Becky O'Nan  
CAN WE RECLAIM THE MEANING OF MISSIONS  
TODAY? Dellanna O'Brien Paul Harrell  
Prayer

8:15 Reception honoring Dellanna O'Brien and other program guests

### TUESDAY

9:15 Instrumental Call to Worship Judy Arrington and James Arrington Goff

9:30 **RECOGNIZING AND PROVIDING ENTRY POINTS**  
FOR PERSONAL INVOLVEMENT  
LYDIA — A Woman Who Recognized Entry Points Deborah Brunt  
Group Hymns Led by Gwen Keys Hitt  
Prayer Dan Watts  
I FIND ENTRY POINTS Carol Reese  
WE PROVIDE ENTRY POINTS Stuart Calvert and parents of Mississippi missionaries  
HOW WE'RE PROVIDING ENTRY POINTS Marilyn Graves and Nita Boudreaux  
Business  
Election of officers and executive board Peggy Huey  
Changes in By-Laws Jean Bond  
SECOND CENTURY FUND EQUALS PERSONAL INVOLVEMENT Wilda Fancher  
Group Hymns Led by Gwen Keys Hitt  
Offertory Prayer Patti Dent  
Special Music  
ENTRY POINTS FOR INVOLVEMENT Mildred McWhorter  
CAN WE PROVIDE ENTRY POINTS? Dellanna O'Brien  
Prayer Mrs. W. L. Compere  
Judy Arrington and James Arrington Goff

1:30 Instrumental Call to Worship

1:45 **REALIZING THE DIVERSITY OF THE WORLD AND**  
RISKING INVOLVEMENT  
ESTHER — A Woman Who Risked All She Had Deborah Brunt  
Group Hymns Led by Gwen Keys Hitt  
Prayer Ann Vickery  
DIVERSITY AND RISK IN ZIMBABWE Wana Ann Fort  
Group Music Led by Gwen Keys Hitt  
1991 — A YEAR OF DIVERSITY AND RISK TAKING Led by Marjean Patterson and Evelyn Tully  
Led by Gwen Keys Kitt  
Group Music  
COMMISSIONING SERVICE FOR MISSISSIPPI  
MISSIONS VOLUNTEERS  
THE CHALLENGE BEFORE US  
Prayer Dellanna O'Brien Eugene Dobbs

The Second Front Page

# The Baptist Record

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## Exec Committee meets, allocates project funds

By Tim Nicholas

The Mississippi Baptist Convention Board's Executive Committee met in Jackson last week, voting to fund a projected series of 252 church leadership training conferences this coming October in 12 locations.

Costing an estimated \$70,000, the conferences will be conducted by six church program organizations: Brotherhood, Church Administration-Pastoral Ministries, Church Music, Sunday School, Discipleship Training, and Woman's Missionary Union.

The idea of the meetings, which would take place each Saturday in October, will be to "make the services of this building available to as many people as possible without their having to drive long distances," according to Eugene Dobbs, administrative assistant for ministry.

In other business, the committee approved roof repairs for the BSU center at Hinds Community College at \$13,199 plus tax.

The bid was from Boyles Roofing and Sheet Metal. The committee approved expending up to \$13,000 for consultation by System Source, Inc., to study information processing in the Baptist Building and bring a recommendation for meeting computer needs.

The Baptist Record was granted the potential expenditure of up to \$75,000 in addition to its budget to meet increasing postage costs. And Gulfshore's elevator door will be replaced at a cost of up to \$15,577 plus tax.

Also, \$300,000 was transferred from the Board Operating Fund to the

Board Restricted Fund, totaling \$1 million in the restricted fund. This leaves approximately \$150,000 in the operating fund at the end of 1990. Part of that amount was the result of closing several escrowed accounts totaling \$82,516.44.

The committee approved further study by Executive Director Bill Causey into the possibility of a Baptist retirement home. Causey indicated that several requests had come in on that topic.

And the committee approved Talmadge Rayborn of Waveland, to replace Ralph Hester on the Baptist Children's Village board. Hester died in December.

Nicholas is director, officer of communication, MBCB.

## Spiritual awakening committee promises historic session

By Robert H. Dilday

NASHVILLE (BP) — A committee hoping to spark spiritual awakening among Southern Baptists unveiled tentative plans Feb. 18 for "the most important meeting" in the denomination's history.

The 10-member spiritual awakening committee, named by Southern Baptist Convention President Morris H. Chapman, will coordinate a two-and-a-half-hour period of prayer and confession on Wednesday evening of the SBC's annual meeting, June 4-6 in Atlanta. The Home Mission Board, originally slated to present its report

at that time, relinquished the time slot late last year.

"We believe this could be a very special changing time, not only in the life of Southern Baptists but . . . to other people as well," said James B. Henry, the committee's chairman. Henry, pastor of First Church of Orlando, Fla., spoke to a gathering of committee members, convention prayer leaders, state convention presidents and executive directors, and state paper editors just prior to the February meeting of the SBC Executive Committee.

He said the prayer session will feature "lots of scripture reading" preceded by trumpet blasts, which will signal participants to stand. He noted such practices frequently are recorded in the Old Testament.

Individual prayer and confession would be followed by prayer in pairs and then in groups of four, said Avery Willis, manager of adult discipleship training for the Sunday School Board and designated as a prayer leader by the board. Among the suggested sins

(See **SESSION** on page 4)



North Delta Association sponsored a mission trip to the Cotton Lane Baptist Church, Waddell, Ariz., Feb. 15-23. Twenty-three men from nine churches helped construct an educational building, on which the outside of the building and the electrical conduit were completed. The participants are, pictured left to right, front row: Harrison Brown, Rena Lara; Rusty Holcomb, Crowder; Joe Boyd, Marks; M. C. Johnson, Oakhurst, Clarksdale; Wesley Nicholas, Cherry Street, Clarksdale; Ellis

Gazaway, Crowder; Malcolm Ashcraft, Lyon; Harvey Sewell, Crowder; second row: Tommy Mitchell, Lyon; Kenny Griffith, Gaston Church, Booneville; Bobby Shields, Crowder; Ron Bolinger, Lambert; John Purvis, Rena Lara; James Waller, Crowder; Charles Embry, Lambert; Billy Applewhite, Crowder; and David Strup, Crowder. Not pictured are Silas Clements, Paynes Church, Charleston, and Howard Shields of Crowder.



# Biloxi hosts MBREA meeting

By Tim Nicholas

Registrants at the annual Mississippi Baptist Religious Education Association heard dozens of lively book reviews about trends and learned ways of dealing with stress during their annual meeting in Biloxi.

The book reviews came from Art Criscoe of the Baptist Sunday School Board. He gave to participants a booklet, "Future Trends in American Life and Their Implications for Ministry." From the book reviews, Criscoe gathered that there are a dozen issues for the 1990s: international tensions, fragile economy, growing pollution, drug crisis, disappearing resources, struggle against poverty, rampant lawlessness, population problems, medical dilemmas, and the collapsing family.

The explosive urbanization, he said, is a problem for the church. "Christianity, which began in the urban centers of Jerusalem and Antioch, is losing the battle for the city."

Concerning evangelism, Criscoe quoted Ralph Winter as saying that in 52 days, Americans spend as much for pet food as they spend annually for all denominations' foreign missions efforts.

In the area of education: "We as Christians have copped out on public education." He said he believes that God will someday ask Christians, "Why?"

For stress relief, participants heard two speakers: Buck Franklin, a medical internist from Simpson County, and Ron Mumbower, minister of family at First Church, Jackson.

"Moderate stress is relieved by exercise and meditation," said Franklin. He said a person cannot change the environment, his genetics, aging, family history. But one can change cholesterol, weight, sedentary lifestyles, and stressful reactions.

Mumbower discussed the book "We are Driven," by Hunfelt, Minith, and Meier. The book's subtitle is "Compulsive Behaviors that America Applauds." These behaviors include: a relentless dedication to hard work, a dogged determination to stay young and fit, a driving desire to achieve financial security, an intense need to help others (co-dependency), tireless insistence on order, and playing full-time cheerleader for others.

A question one can ask concerning these areas is "Am I solely loved because of my external achievement?"

He said what begins as voluntary action evolves to habit, to compulsion, and "erupts into addiction."

Mumbower noted that recovery from these "addictions" is a choice, an act of the will. "You've got to replace the habit with a balanced lifestyle." Abstinence includes staying away from food sometimes, and sometimes calendars. He suggested reading — not always self-help books. He recommended the PrayerLife studies. And he suggested establishing a support network — particularly "an account-

tant," a person to meet with regularly to keep up with your life and help keep you on track — one who is of the same sex.

Mark Short, executive director of the Louisiana Baptist Convention, spoke on the mechanics of getting the work done. He said church staffers need to learn about motivation, organization, and priorities — and learn to make decisions. Said Short, "Do it or ditch it or delegate it."

Nicholas is director, office of communication, MBCB.



Newly elected officers of the Mississippi Baptist Religious Education Association are, from left, Joe Chapman, president-elect, minister of education, Ridgecrest Church, Madison; Barbara Brown, vice president, director of childhood ministries, Morrison Heights Church, Clinton; Gary Shows, president, minister of education, First Church, McComb; and Marcus Peagler, secretary-treasurer, minister of education, First Church, Quitman.



Ron Mumbower, speaker at the MBREA, chats with outgoing President Tommy Sparkman and incoming President Gary Shows at the annual meeting on the Gulf Coast.

## Robertson speaks at literacy banquet

By Guy Henderson

The fourth annual Business in Literacy Breakfast was held in Jackson Feb. 28, with Pat Robertson as the featured speaker.

Kay Mortimer of the Junior League Advisory Committee was chairperson and presented the urgency of the literacy program.

There are 700,000 illiterate adults in Mississippi. This translates into their inability to fill out a job application or follow directions on a medical label. Parents who cannot read usually have children who grow up unable to read.

A non-reading adult earns 42 percent less in his lifetime than a high school graduate. More than 75 percent of adults in Mississippi prisons are non-readers.

Tribute was paid to business enterprises in the state which are in the forefront of the battle against illiteracy. Mississippi Power & Light listed 50 organizations and business

firms offering training contracts, sponsorships, or grants to the literacy programs. Ken Pate of Manville Forest Products testified to the value of a literacy program on the production line. Larry Hogue of MP&L is working full time in educational services offered to industry and communities. Colleges and universities are offering expertise and skills in research and training.

Robertson, presidential candidate in 1986 and director of the Christian Broadcasting Network, spoke of the value of high technology evidenced in the war with Iraq. His network has spent over one million dollars in literacy work in our state. "A person can take 40 lessons and have a reading skill. For \$300 per student, an adult can obtain the equivalent of a high school education."

Robertson also advocates literacy being tied in with welfare. "The role

of welfare should be to become productive citizens, not merely to keep them on welfare. Enroll in education classes, or no welfare," was his suggestion.

Illiteracy costs our state billions in earnings and tax dollars each year. Beside the lost earnings and taxes, it destroys self-esteem and contributes directly to high unemployment, low productivity, and criminal behavior.

Frank Laubach, missionary educator, is said to have taught four billion people to read by his simple "Each one teach one." The tuition of a student was to agree to teach another person to read. Illiteracy could be erased in Mississippi in six months if we brought our resources to encounter the problem. Volunteers are needed as tutors, to help with publicity or transportation, or to sponsor a student. Contact your Community Education Center for more information.

## Urgent Request

Dewey Merritt of the Foreign Mission Board has made an urgent request for preachers and stewardship leaders to go to South Africa for a crusade. For more information call Merritt at 1-800-999-3113.

## New churches overseas up by 13 percent in 1990

By Mary E. Speidel

RICHMOND, Va. (BP) — Overseas Baptists related to Southern Baptist missions achieved one of the highest gains ever in new churches in 1990 while baptisms dipped below a record set in 1989.

Overseas churches related to Southern Baptist foreign mission work increased from 21,239 in 1989 to 24,122 in 1990, reflecting a 13.6 percent net gain of 2,883 churches. Some of these gains are due to increased attention to reporting from the mission field, said Jim Slack of the Foreign Mission Board's research and planning office. Slack prepares the board's annual statistical report on foreign missions.

The 1990 increase in new churches meets the 12 percent gain required annually to reach Bold Mission Thrust goals, Slack said. Bold Mission Thrust is a plan adopted by Southern Baptists in 1976 for spreading the gospel to every person in the world by the year 2000 and for achieving a tenfold expansion of overseas Baptist work.

The 1990 statistics indicate that "significant" church growth is occurring on the Southern Baptist foreign mission field, Slack added. During the past three years, the total number of churches has jumped from 17,769 in 1987 to 24,122 in 1990. In 1990, national Baptists and Southern Baptist missionaries started a total of 1,550 new churches, up from the 1989 total of 1,059. Of the 120 countries reporting, 65 countries, about 54 percent, started new churches during 1990.

In addition to starting new work, overseas Baptist churches baptized 208,381 new Christians, the second highest total in the history of Southern Baptist foreign missions. That number is down from the 1989 record of 227,437 baptisms.

Overseas Baptist church membership grew by about 9 percent, from some 2.5 million in 1989 to about 2.7 million in 1990.

In other report highlights, a record number of 11,650 Southern Baptist volunteers participated in overseas projects. A total of 17 state Baptist conventions were linked with overseas Baptists in partnership projects.

Southern Baptist personnel in 1990 began working with 23 new people groups and entered 176 new cities where no Baptist work existed previously. By year's end, 60 nonresidential missionaries in 14 countries were targeting more than 40 different people groups with a population of 247 million. Non-residential missionaries seek to evangelize unreached people groups in restricted regions, working from bases outside those regions.

In 1990, Southern Baptists appointed 414 new missionaries with a net increase of 83 for the year. That figure was up from 1989, when total appointments were 310 with a net loss of 87.

Slack also voiced concern about the low number of mission congregations and preaching points that matured into churches in 1990. Only 7.3 percent of the 21,000 preaching points in 1989 became churches in 1990. At this rate, it takes an average of 13.2 years for a preaching point to mature into a church. A more realistic and healthy annual level of maturity would be 25 percent, Slack said.

Slack also noted concern about a 17-percent drop in enrollment in seminary extension programs, from 15,796 in 1989 to 13,105 in 1990. Slack said the decline is serious since the extension programs generally train

(See CHURCHES on page 5)

## SESSION

From page 3

to confess will be not loving God completely, not loving one's brother as Christ does and "loving the world instead of the lost of the world."

Southern Baptists will be encouraged to contribute lists of personal sins which will be categorized within those three suggested areas, Henry said. Several will be chosen as representative examples and corporately confessed. The lists then will be nailed to a large cross in the center of the meeting hall, as a symbol of Christ's redemption from those sins.

Lists may be sent to committee member Jonya Davis, First Baptist Church, P.O. Box 36, Russellville, Ark. 72801.

Sacrifice will be another theme, Willis said, as participants are asked to give to God anything — their bodies, financial resources, time — they have been withholding. Prayer and confession will be followed by celebratory congregational singing and a responsive reading expressing Southern Baptists' "renewal of our covenant" with God, he added.

In preparation for the prayer session, the committee will distribute numerous articles through Baptist Press, the denomination's news service, and directly to state Baptist

newspapers. Also, churches will be asked to pray for the event both on May 19, Pentecost Sunday, and on the Wednesday night itself, when most Southern Baptist churches hold regularly scheduled prayer meetings. Presidents of the six Southern Baptist seminaries also will be requested to schedule prayer for the endeavor during chapel services and faculty meetings; all pre-convention events such as the meetings of the Southern Baptist Pastors' Conference and the Southern Baptist Woman's Missionary Union, will be asked for prayer; and other denominations are being urged to pray for the SBC.

"We're asking God to break through in a dynamic way . . ." said Henry. "The result will be revival, renewal and spiritual awakening that will spill over and touch not only Southern Baptists but other Christians."

Chapman, pastor of First Church of Wichita Falls, Texas, appointed the spiritual awakening committee in the fall of 1990 to provide heightened awareness to renewal within the convention. In addition to Henry and Davis, committee members include Lewis A. Drummond, C.B. Hogue, J.C. Mitchell, Jeannie Seaborn, Glen Sheppard, Danny Watters, Wallace A.C. Williams, and Fred H. Wolfe.

Dilday writes for Virginia RELIGIOUS HERALD.



# Missionaries learn strategies to combat terrorism

By Shannon T. Simpson

What would you do if you were a missionary in Latin America, and a member of your family were kidnapped? What would you do if you were the head of the mission organization that sponsored such a missionary? What would you do if the kidnappers were terrorists, and were determined to make an example of the captive? What would you do?

Chester L. Quarles of Oxford knows exactly what you should do. For almost six years, Quarles has advised mission organizations and missionaries on how to prepare and react in crises just as the one described above.

Quarles is a member of Contingency Preparation Consultants, a team which uses its expertise in law enforcement, security, and intelligence fields to further the work of the Lord in mission fields.

Contingency Preparation Consultants (CPC) began in 1985 with the help of Wycliffe Bible Translators. After the 1981 kidnapping and execution of Summer Institute of Linguistics worker Chester Bitterman, Wycliffe recognized a dire need to prepare and train its workers against rising terrorist activities.

Quarles joined CPC with many years of law enforcement experience. He served the Mississippi Highway Patrol for over three years, and as second director of the state's Bureau of Narcotics. He also served with the Army National Guard as a member of the Military Police, and has studied different forms of terrorism extensively, even through his present position as professor and director of criminal justice programs at the University of Mississippi, Oxford —

unlikely professions for the son and grandson of Baptist preachers. (His father was executive secretary, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, for 18 years.)

But, Quarles says the main reason for his involvement in CPC was a talk he heard at his church, Tula Church in Lafayette County, by Honduras missionary Russell Herrington. Herrington spoke of the responsibility each Christian has to missions/an obligation beyond putting money in the collection plate.

"It really touched my heart," says Quarles. "I struggled with how someone like me, who put people in jail — what skills did I have that could be used on the mission field? Then it occurred to me that I might be able to teach people how to live in incredibly violent societies."

Quarles says people often think of car bombs and hijackings in connection with terrorism, but "prevention is the mind-set. Recognize the threat, observe, interpret correctly what you see, and you can literally avoid most problems."

He believes missionaries are "soft targets" (vulnerable) because "they have an unrealistic expectation of the insurance policy they think God gave them when he sent them overseas." In other words, some believe God will take care of them no matter how careless they are.

"We try to get them to rethink their responsibility for their own safety," Quarles explains CPC's work with mission organizations. "What we teach is the concept of the ultimate stewardship. The missionary is the ultimate tithe. He gave himself for the Master. If he is taken captive or kill-



Chester L. Quarles is a founding mother of the ministry team Contingency Preparation Consultants, which donates its time and expertise to missionaries and their organizations to combat terrorism. Quarles is shown in his office in the Ole Miss campus, where he soon will install the SAFE computer network — Security Alliance for Evangelicals.

ed, the mission organization has lost literally years of language training, cultural experience, and maturity. He should treat himself just as carefully as he would missions money or a mission church."

Missionaries become terrorists' "symbolic" targets because they are Westerners, not because they are missionaries, says Quarles. They are also

targeted because they don't have the advantages of armored cars, bodyguards, and the like, so strategies of "target hardening" are important.

Quarles and CPC take a scriptural approach to their teachings. Using examples from the travels of Paul, Silas, and Barnabas, they emphasize that simple techniques such as changing travel plans or routines, knowing when to leave a dangerous country, or keeping a low profile are ways to avoid being targeted for violence.

"We don't suggest they give up their whole ministry" under threat of violence. "We do suggest they pay attention to crime trends, be aware of terrorism trends, and be alert to violence. If they wouldn't do certain things in their home state (that make them vulnerable to crime), then they certainly shouldn't do it while they are on the mission field."

"Contingency Preparation Consultants helps people think of ways to win against terrorism," says Quarles.

Apparently, their training works. CPC team members have consulted with Gospel Missionary Union, Campus Crusade for Christ, Summer Institute of Linguistics, Mission Aviation Fellowship, New Tribes Missions, Wycliffe Bible Translators, Youth With a Mission, and the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board. Quarles reports that "20-30 times," missionaries were able to recognize and break surveillance on their homes that could have led to violence against them or their families.

He tells the story of a Summer Institute of Linguistics center in Mexico City, which was being "encouraged" with bombs to give up its lease, two years early. Since SIL had already

agreed to turn the center over to the Mexican government when its work was finished, Quarles advised SIL to have an armed guard live on the premises until the lease was officially up. SIL presumably did as he advised, for the bombing stopped without injury to any of the workers there.

He cites as another success story the removal of an Argentinian pastor from rural Colombia. The pastor almost lost his daughter to executioners who objected to his preaching against the drug trade there.

Right now, terrorism is waning after an all-time high of incidents in 1988. Quarles expects those incidents to rise again, however, because of the cyclical nature of terrorism, statistically. Because of that anticipated rise, and the need for its services, CPC is seeking people to volunteer for this ministry. Quarles and the other seven members of Contingency Preparation Consultants say there are many opportunities for service, especially for retired members of police and security fields.

Quarles says he is affirmed in his call to this unusual ministry by the invigoration his career has gained through CPC.

"Most academic research is done in a library, out of books someone else wrote," he says. "But I have looked Satan in the eye. I never intended it to be so, but God has blessed my career. It's so satisfying, not in monetary terms, but in terms of the focus I have that this is what God wants me to do."

By teaching the advice of the Savior in Matthew 10:16, Quarles helps missionaries to "be ye therefore wise as serpents and harmless as doves."

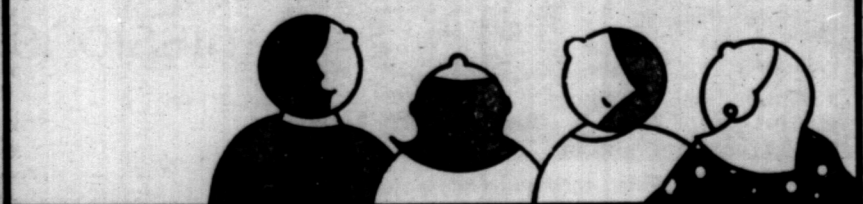
## Olson accidentally shot

Mark Olson, 28, of Quitman, was accidentally killed on Feb. 28. Olson, son-in-law of Lynn Mackey, director of missions for Wayne Association, was shot while moving some guns in his home. He is survived by his wife, Deanna, and two sons. Funeral services were held March 3 in Waynesboro.

## STATISTICS

### What Americans think it means to be a Christian:

Don't know	22%
To live differently from other people	21
To accept Christ as Savior, to have a personal relationship with Jesus	19
To love others, to help other people	14
To believe in God	14
To go to church, to be religious	11
To be a good person	10



Source: Barna Research Group, 1990

In Milwaukee, Mrs. Eugene Lee panicked when she opened her oven to check her holiday dinner. The intended feast for seven, a 12-pound turkey, had shrunk to the size of a softball.

Mrs. Lee was kept in a state of fren-

zy for about an hour before her neighbors confessed they had substituted a 16-ounce Cornish game hen for the gobbler while the Lees were at church. Mr. Lee had left the back door open for the pranksters.

## CHURCHES

From page 4

more leaders who serve in new work settings.

In the overall report, Slack noted that the same seven countries led in major areas such as new church starts, baptisms, church membership and Sunday School enrollment as in previous years — Nigeria, Brazil, India, Kenya, Korea, the Philippines and Mexico.

In human needs programs, Southern Baptists spent nearly \$7.5 million for overseas hunger and relief projects in 1990, up from the 1989 total of \$5.2 million. The money supported 286 projects in 62 countries including Vietnam, Cambodia, parts of the Soviet Union, and Romania.

Medical missionaries and workers treated about 1.5 million patients overseas. A total of 48 Baptist-related centers published more than 3.8 million books, 7.8 million periodicals and 21 million tracts. Radio and television broadcasts on 421 stations brought in some 71,000 contacts from persons interested in the gospel.

Speidel writes for FMB.

## JOB

From page 2

"We're not going to stand still as Baptists," Leavell concluded. "We're either going to move up, or we're going to begin to fall back. With 70 percent of our churches plateaued or declining, you're the ones who are going to have to do something about it, and it will happen when you become obedient to the Lordship of Jesus Christ, and get on with the job."

"We've got the ball, but we're going to have to advance it rapidly," he said. "Whatever we intend to do for Jesus, we must do quickly."

Paine writes for NOBTS.

## Jack Johnson will speak at broadcasting banquet April 12

Jack Johnson, newly elected president of the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission (RTVC)



will be the keynote speaker for the Fifth Annual Mississippi Baptists in Broadcasting (MBIB) Awards Banquet to be held on April 12, 7-9 p.m. at Calvary Church, Jackson.

MBIB will continue on Saturday, April 13, with television and radio production conferences, and many equipment vendors will also be present with displays.

Before going to the RTVC as its fourth president, Johnson was executive-director-treasurer of the Arizona Southern Baptist Convention. Previously he served as pastor of churches in Oklahoma, Texas, and California.

Born at Clovis, New Mexico, he received his education at Southeastern Oklahoma State University, Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College, Oklahoma Baptist University, and holds the MDIV degree from Golden Gate Seminary, and the PhD from California Graduate School of Theology.

and a mission task.

The MBIB meeting has been expanded to a weekend format with the Awards Banquet on Friday evening at 7 p.m. Equipment vendors and technical/productions conferences are all scheduled on Saturday, April 13 from 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Local churches who submit radio or television entrees in various categories will be recognized on April 12. These categories for radio and television are Best Programs in Missions/Evangelism, Church Musicals,

Human Interest, Community Service/Sports; Best Spot; and Most Creative Use of Radio and Television. The deadline for the entries to be in is March 15.

The Awards Banquet, continental breakfast, and the Saturday luncheon are provided as a part of the \$15 per person registration fee. Contact Farrell Blankenship, Department of Broadcast Services, P. O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530 for more information.

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# Just for the Record



**First Church, Nesbit**, made its first delivery of "comfort dolls" to the Southaven Health Care Center Jan. 24. Once a month they take comfort dolls to women who have birthdays during the month and coffee mugs filled with goodies to men who have birthdays during the month. The Baptist Women mission action group leads this project. They had help from many women who came together for work and fellowship, to make the dolls. Pictured are Kathleen Taylor, WMU director, Ludie and Keith Wilson, pastor and wife, and Shirley May. Evelyn Bearden is mission action leader.

**New Hope Church, Gulfport**, will conduct its Easter Sunrise Service, March 31, at 6 a.m. Services will be led by Richard E. Wilson, pastor. A pancake breakfast will be served at 6:45 a.m. Other activities include Sunday School and Bible study, 9:30 a.m.; Discipleship Training, 6 p.m.; and worship services at 10:30 a.m. and 7 p.m.

**Freedom Church, Laurel**, will dedicate its church and education building, on April 7, at 9:45 a.m. and 11 a.m. Other activities include homecoming and high attendance day. R. Tracy Hipps, pastor, will be the speaker. A covered dish meal will be served in fellowship hall at noon.



**Bobby Perry**, executive director, Gulf Coast Association, at left, presents a check for \$2,500 to **Joe Davis**, interim pastor, Lakeshore Church, Hancock County. The funds were made available through the Margaret Lackey State Missions Offering Disaster Funds. Lakeshore Church recently suffered damage to its education building as a result of heavy rains.

"**WMU FOCUS**" was observed Feb. 10 at **Star Church, Rankin Association**, Gayden Harrell, pastor. Taking part in the program were Cindy Sanders, GA director; Vie Cooper, Mission Friends director; Betty Park, pres., Baptist Women prayer group; Grace Jackson, pres., current mission group; and Maurine Harper, WMU director.

Following the Sunday night service, a fellowship was held. Each organization had cakes decorated with their emblems, as well as displays about their activities.

## HSBYM to bicycle through New England

### Adventure WEEK '91

For High School Baptist Young Men  
Combine Cycling thru New England  
with Mission Adventure  
DATE: June 22-30, 1991  
COST: \$200.00  
INFO: Brotherhood Commission  
1-800-727-6466  
REGISTER: By May 1, 1991

**MEMPHIS** — High School Baptist Young Men, grades 10-12, across the country will assemble in Worcester, Mass., this summer for a bicycling mission trip through New England.

The event, called Adventure Week, June 22-30, is a week long missions adventure sponsored by the Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission. As the young men bicycle through Massachusetts, Vermont, New Hampshire, and Maine, they will do neighborhood surveys, jail visitation, sports clinics, remodeling, and more.

"The week will provide opportunity for missionary service, leadership training and unique recreation," said

**Hal Hill**, High School Baptist Young Men's director for the Brotherhood Commission. "Mission action will take place in new churches, the inner city, Baptist Centers, campgrounds, and parks.

"Biking through the area is extraordinary," said Hill. "Not only is more of the area seen on a bike, but personal contact with nature, people, and local culture enhances the experience."

For more information, contact the Brotherhood Commission at 901-272-2461, or write Adventure Week, 1548 Poplar Ave., Memphis, TN 38104.

### Off the Record

A golfer hit a new ball into the lake, another new ball out of bounds onto a highway, and another new ball into the woods.

"Why don't you use an old ball?" said the caddy.

Replied the golfer sadly, "I've never had an old ball."

"Why under the sun does a woman say she's been shopping when she hasn't bought a thing?" asked the husband.

"For the same reason," retorted the wife, "that a man says he's been fishing when he hasn't caught a thing."

A lady was entertaining her friend's small son. "Are you sure you can cut your meat?" she asked, after watching his struggles.

"Oh, yes," he replied, without looking up from his plate. "We often have it as tough as this at home."

Mechanic to owner of old, broken down car: "Let me put it this way — if your car were a horse, it would have to be shot."



**Baptist Young Women of Calvary Church, Petal**, explained missions in a fashion show featuring the native dress of several countries and one state of the U.S. The word, "missions," was spelled out by the first letter of each mission field; while emcee Sherri Marengo explained the history and present influence of missionaries in each location. They are, left to right:

M — Mozambique, Andrea Carley;  
I — Italy, Freda Kinsey, BYW president;  
S — Spain, Lynn Strickland;  
S — Singapore, Trisha Brumbaugh;  
I — India, Joyce Raybourn;  
O — Oklahoma, Kathy Miller;  
N — Nigeria, Lisa Pearce; and  
S — Saudi Arabia, Jesse McMichael.

# Sponsors sought for 2,000 new churches

**ATLANTA (BP)** — WANTED: Sponsors for 2,000 new Southern Baptist churches across America.

That's the message the Home Mission Board hopes 37,000 existing Southern Baptist churches will respond to March 24, to be observed as Start-a-Church Commitment Sunday nationwide.

The call to sponsor 2,000 new churches this year is part of the Bold Mission Thrust goal of having 50,000 SBC churches and church-type missions by the year 2000. Bold Mission Thrust is the denomination's plan to present the gospel to every person on earth before the turn of the century.

To facilitate sponsorship, the HMB is compiling a directory of specific information about places where new churches are needed. Many of the sites already identified are in areas where there are no existing SBC churches to provide sponsorship, said Floyd Tidworth, HMB director of new church extension.

Tidworth encourages churches to use Start-a-Church Commitment Sunday as an opportunity to evaluate church starting needs in their communities. Churches located in areas already well represented by SBC congregations could look toward needs in unchurched areas within their states or beyond, he suggested.

Sponsorship can take one of three common forms, Tidworth explained.

Primary sponsors are nearby churches that start and nurture a mission, holding membership rolls and

assisting in major decisions and financial needs. Cosponsors are churches that contribute substantial finances for a mission located either nearby or far away, in conjunction with sponsorship by another church. Support sponsors are churches that contribute to a package of financial prayer, and volunteer support that undergirded by a larger number of similar support sponsors.

Tidworth cited several examples requests already received in the HMB database of missions needing sponsors.

— In Santa Teresa, N.M., Bible studies will begin soon in preparation for a church to provide a witness near a new border crossing into Mexico. The town's current population of 2,000 is projected to grow to 50,000 in 10 years.

— In Chicago Island, just west of Juneau, Alaska, additional sponsorship is needed for a pastor to develop a field of mission churches in several isolated fishing villages.

— Near Tehachapi, Calif., plans are being made for a Southern Baptist church to serve a new community being built in an area eight miles from the nearest church.

— In Round Lake, Ill., a church is needed for a rapidly growing suburban population. Now only 17 churches serve a population of 500,000 in Lake County Baptist Association.

Free materials for observing Start-a-Church Commitment Sunday are available from the HMB's customer service center: 1-800-634-2462.

## Climate of hope prevails in Haiti

**SANTO DOMINGO, Dominican Republic (BP)** — A climate of hope and "absolute euphoria" surrounded the Feb. 7 inauguration of Haiti's first democratically elected president, according to a Southern Baptist missionary.

Jean-Bertrand Aristide, a leftist Roman Catholic priest, was inaugurated as president of Haiti on the fifth anniversary of the fall of dictator Jean-Claude "Baby Doc" Duvalier.

Haitians were "completely ecstatic," said Virgil Suttles, a missionary from Haiti visiting the Dominican Republic. "There's probably as much hope in the minds of the people now as I've ever seen in Haiti. They really have hope that things are going to change" and that the country will "come out from under some of the oppression it's suffered in the last three decades," he said.



**Calvary Church, Petal**, spotlighted home missions with a drama presentation on the life of Annie Armstrong. Charlene Smith, left, president of the Annie Armstrong Circle, posed as a reporter interviewing Annie, portrayed by Molly Fairchild. Dialogue for the presentation was written by Fairchild and Smith, from excerpts from *Annie Armstrong: Dreamer in Action*. After the skit, GAs presented a prayer calendar, and prayer was offered for American troops in the Mid-East. Kelly Sumrall is GA director; Lisa Jarrell is WMU director; Phil Harris is pastor.

Drama focuses on home missions



# HOUSETOPS

What I tell you in the darkness, speak in the light: and what you hear whispered in your ear, proclaim upon the housetops. Matthew 10:27 NAS

March 7, 1991

HOUSETOPS is a supplement to the Baptist Record and is produced by the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.



## MAKING AN EVANGELISTIC VISIT

by Eugene Dobbs, Administrative Assistant, Ministry; MBCB

Some of our witnessing for Christ occurs as we daily seize those spontaneous opportunities to present the Gospel. At other times, we share our faith as a part of a planned visitation effort.

...Before we visit - LET US PREPARE. Preparation for an evangelistic visit would include the ability to effectively handle the Word of God and other witnessing tools. Inward spiritual preparation through Bible study, meditation, and prayer is likewise vital.

...As we visit - LET US PRAY. The totality of the witnessing experience ought to be bathed in prayer. Even as we depart to make the visit, prayer should continue for ourselves and for those with whom a witness will be shared. The presence, power, and guidance of the Holy Spirit are to be sought.

...During the visit - LET US PRESENT CHRIST. We must not forget the purpose of our visit, nor unwisely use the time prior to presenting the Gospel. Many use guided conversation and find the acrostic FIRE to be helpful. (family, interest, religious background, exploratory question) Whatever our approach, a clear presentation of the Gospel should always be made.

...After the visit - LET US PERSIST. The goal is not to make a visit but to win the lost to faith in Christ. If the offer of salvation is accepted, we need to persist in love, concern, and efforts to enlist the saved in the ministry of a local church. If Christ is not received, we must persist in prayer, encouragement, continued interest, and follow-up visits.

LET US VISIT!!! It was the practice and command of our Lord.

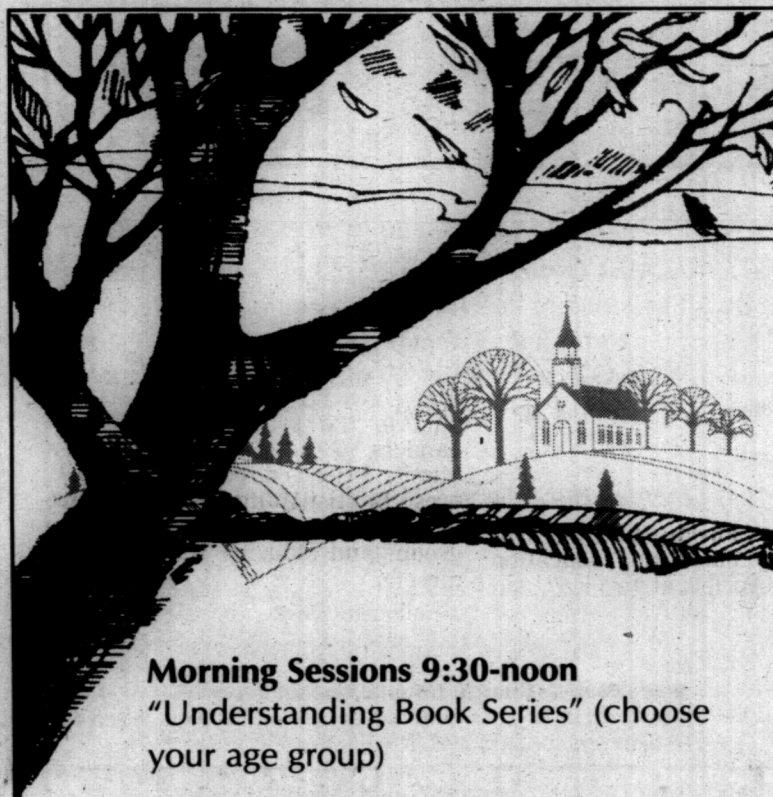
*This series of articles deal with how to become a Christian or how to share your faith. Articles by others will follow in future issues of HouseTops.*

## Families: Nurturing the Caregiver, April 9, 1991

Holiday Inn  
Downtown Jackson, Mississippi

Sponsored by Mississippi College and Church Administration-Pastoral Ministries Department, MBCB

For more information contact Mississippi College Continuing Education Division telephone 925-3265.



**Morning Sessions 9:30-noon**  
"Understanding Book Series" (choose your age group)

**Afternoon Sessions 1:00-3:15**  
Sunday School, Discipleship Training, Church Music, Brotherhood, WMU leaders and Church Administration for pastors

## SMALL CHURCH LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

March 23, 1991  
William Carey College  
9:30 a.m.—3:15 p.m.

*a BIG conference for  
SMALL Churches  
(150 or less in Sunday School)*

*Register now at your Associational Office so that your complimentary lunch can be reserved.*

## EMPOWERED

### to be the Theme for This Year's WMU Annual Meeting

Women from across the state will gather at First Baptist Church, Jackson, March 18-19, for their Annual Meeting. The first session begins Monday at 2 p.m., and the final session concludes Tuesday at 4 p.m.

Featured at each session will be a costumed monologue on a woman in the Bible who exemplified one of the objectives of the EMPOWERED emphasis. Deborah Brunt of Corinth will perform the monologue dramas. Brunt is a writer for CONTEMPO, the magazine for Baptist Young Women, published by WMU, SBC. Her first book, BYW, WHO ARE WE?, a devotional book, was published by WMU, SBC. Her second book, THINGS FAIL, PEOPLE FALL, will be available in the spring.



Other program personalities include: Dr. Delanna O'Brien, executive director, WMU, SBC; Mildred McWhorter, home missionary, Houston, Texas; Dr. Wana Ann Fort, retired missionary to Zimbabwe; Evelyn Tully, WMU executive director, Illinois; Carol Reese, home missionary at Cook County Hospital, Chicago; and Sandy Wisdom, GA/Mission Friends consultant, Arkansas. Joining these on the program will be several Mississippi missionaries, home and foreign.

Music will be under the direction of Gwen Hitt of Collins. James Arrington Goff will be organist, and Judy Arrington will be pianist for the meeting.

Meals for Monday night and Tuesday noon will be available by reservation only at \$7.50 each. To make reservations, call the WMU office, 968-3800.



Deborah Brunt

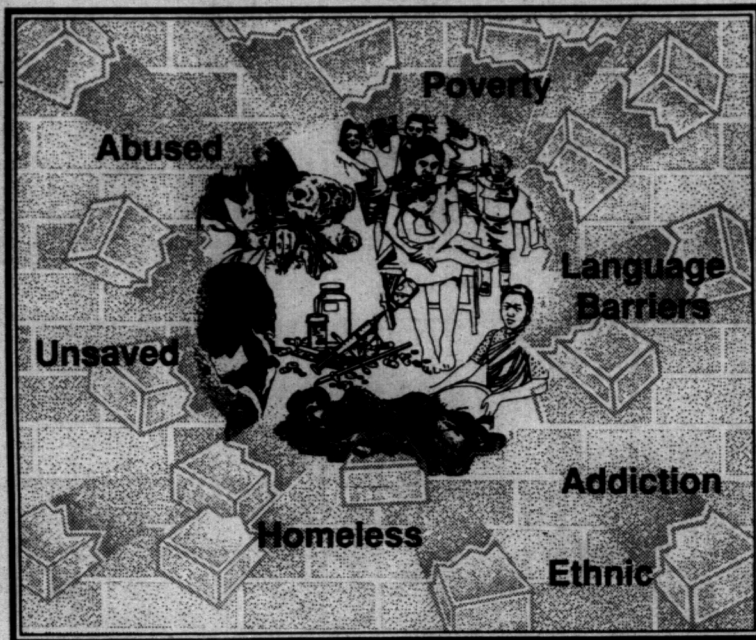


BREAKING DOWN  
THE WALLS...  
To Reach the World  
for Jesus

## YOUTH MISSIONS CONFERENCE

MARCH 29-30  
Friday 1 p.m.—  
Saturday 3 p.m.

Gulfshore  
Baptist  
Assembly



For Youth (Grades 7-12), Youth Leaders, and Interested College Students  
SPECIAL GUESTS — ...**Miss Dottie Williamson**, Church Planter from Home Mission Board assigned to Pearl River Association...**Dr. Jerry Pounds, Sr.**, Director of Continuing Education and Assistant Professor of Christian Education, New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary...**Rev. Sean Keith**, Minister of Youth and Education, First Baptist Church, Corinth

RESERVATIONS — by mail only. Send \$28 to Gulfshore Baptist Assembly. See registration form on back page of HOUSETOPS.

## Continuing Witness Training

by J. Garland McKee, Director, Evangelism Dept.  
Mississippi Baptist Convention Board

Continuing Witness Training is our most intensive witness training program available. Also it takes the most extended commitment of any of the witness training programs that we offer.

CWT takes much commitment from both pastor and people to be trained. The pastor must be willing to give the better part of a week to be trained in a National CWT Seminar. Following the pastor being trained the trainees must be willing to commit themselves to a thirteen (13) week training period. The training in a church is perpetuated by all or some of these trained witnesses giving of themselves for thirteen (13) additional weeks serving as equippers to train others.

When one has learned the gospel presentation prescribed by CWT, that one has accumulated a storehouse of Bible verses which will give confidence in presenting a viable witness to lost people. You will commit to memory, verses that will enable you to witness out of the overflow. CWT not only is a tool for witnessing but a great tool for Sunday School teachers in teaching the Bible and for keeping your Sunday School teaching anchored to evangelism.

My personal experience with CWT as a pastor was most gratifying. I took my last church, as pastor, through eight thirteen (13) week cycles of Continuing Witness Training. Let your Evangelism Department here at the Baptist Building know if you as a pastor would like to become certified in CWT. Remember pastor, you must be certified in CWT before you can lead our people in this wonderful witness training.

"Helping to Win Mississippi and the World to Jesus". That is what CWT is all about.

## Volunteer Missions Construction Projects 1991

Below you will find a partial list of the volunteer mission construction projects occurring this year. Contact the Brotherhood Dept. at 968-3800 for a complete listing.



### ALASKA

June 10-22 (Deadline April 12)

**Hillside Baptist Church, Anchorage**

**Phase 1:** Critical need for concrete block layers, 20-25 people.

**Phase 2:** July 1-13 & July 15-27

Framing, roofing, rough electrical and plumbing. Two teams of 20-25 each

**Phase 3:** July 27-Aug. 4

Insulation, sheet rock installation, finish electrical and plumbing. 20-25 people

**Phase 4:** August 19-31

Painting and finish carpentry.

Cost is approximately \$800 (includes airfare, food, fuel expenses for team trips and insurance..) Contact: Rev. Gary Reichenbach, P.O. Box 816, Cleveland, MS 38732. Phone: (601) 843-4490 (office) or 843-3021



### CALIFORNIA

June

**Anglo church, out of Stockton area - new church**

June

**Black church, south of Sacramento - new church**

May

**Iglesia Bautista Church, El Monte (Spanish)**

New church. Located northeast of Los Angeles area. Need all skills. Lodging and meals furnished.

May

**Elk Grove Baptist Church, Elk Grove (Anglo)**

New church. Located south of Sacramento. Need all skills. Lodging and meals furnished.

For CA projects contact: Mr. Edd Brown, California Southern Baptist Convention, Brotherhood Dept., 678 E. Shaw, Fresno, CA 93710 Phone: (209) 229-9533

### INDIANA

Summer-Fall

**Sprunica Baptist Church, Brown County**

30 x 30 new building (auditorium, rest rooms and nursery.) Renovate existing 24 x 24 building into classroom space and renovate parsonage. Teams of 8-10 would be best; need several teams throughout the summer.

Contact: Stuart Cundiff, Director of Missions, P. O. Box 97, Hope, IN 47246 Phone: (812) 546-1211 (office) or 546-6343 (home)

Early June and After July 6

**First Baptist Church, Pekin (30 miles n. of Louisville, KY)**

First unit. Housing provided. Team provides own meals. Phone: (812) 967-4115

### KENTUCKY

Summer

**Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville**

Painting, remodeling seminary apartments. Contact: Mr. Tom Webe, SBTS, 2825 Lexington Rd., Louisville, KY 40280 Phone: Toll free 1-800-626-5525

### MISSISSIPPI

**Central Hills Baptist Retreat, Kosciusko**

1. Tent Day - May 4 - putting up tents and beds in preparation for camp. Need pickup trucks and men.
2. Trail and tent-site trimming
3. Working with horses (grooming, trimming and general handling)
4. August 5 or August 3 - remove tents, wash tent flies and pack them.

SPECIAL REQUEST: Need new 22 rifles, bolt-action, single shot Contact: Rev. Dan West at Central Hills, P. O. Box 237, Kosciusko, MS 39090. Phone: (601) 289-9730.

### Baptist Children's Village

Painting (exterior and interior).....Jackson location

Carpentry project.....Jackson location

Plumbing project.....Jackson location

Roofing project.....Brookhaven location

Contact: Mr. Karl McGraw at the Baptist Children's Village, P. O. Box 27, Clinton, MS 39060 Phone: (601) 922-2242

### OHIO

June 22

**First Baptist Church, Dent**

Concrete block building with a flat metal roof. This is their third building.

Contact: Rev. Dennis Holmes, 6384 Harrison Ave., Cincinnati, OH 45247 Phone: (513) 574-6411

After June 28

**Southern Baptist Church Warren**

Congregation is about 15 years old, but this is their first really nice building.

Contact: Rev. Gary Hennessey, 1941 Colonial S.E., Warren, OH 44483 Phone: (216) 369-2968

After June 28

**Southside Baptist Church, Zanesville**

Building a 1,600 sq. ft. addition. Rough work covered for June 22-28 but finishing work needed later.

Contact: Rev. Barry Knaub, Box 1709, Zanesville, OH 43701 Phone: (614) 454-3243 (home)







## More Than Music

Frank Nix, Minister of Music  
Roseland Park Baptist Church Picayune

I have been attending Young Musician Festivals in Mississippi ever since I first began my ministry back in 1977. I've seen our festivals grow each year and the children that I have taken in past years have always come away with some great memories.

But this year, I had some children come away with memories they will never forget. On the way home in our van, some of our gang were talking about the song, "In My Heart." I just threw out the question, "How many of you know that Jesus lives in your heart?" Almost every hand on my van went up...except one. I noticed that this little girl put her head down. I began to quiz the group on how they knew that Jesus was in their hearts and how He came to live there.

They picked up on what I was doing right away and started sharing answers and other words of testimony.

We arrived back in Picayune, unloaded the vans and went our separate ways. On Sunday morning, when the invitation was given at the close of our service, four Young Musicians who had attended the festival with us the day before came forward, accepting Jesus as their personal Savior. Among them was the young girl on my van. Her head was no longer down, but rather was lifted high and she was grinning from ear to ear.

I found out that the other van had been talking about the same thing as they traveled home. The other girls were with them.

This Young Musician's Festival was more than just music; more than just a night away from home; more than just another program. It was a life-changing experience for some of our children. I thank God daily for our music ministry to children throughout our state, for it truly is a MINISTRY! May Jesus Christ Be Praised!

## Home Missions Day in the Sunday School March 10, 1991

Home Missions Day in the Sunday School is a special time each year when Sunday School members focus on the work of Home Missions as a key way Southern Baptists are working together to win this nation for Christ.

The important facts are: (1) The Week of Prayer for Home Missions will be March 3-10, 1991; (2) The week concludes with observance of Home Missions Day in the Sunday School on March 10; (3) The national goal for the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for Home Missions is \$41,000,000; (4) The theme is "Missions: Giving People Hope"; and (5) The scripture is Romans 15:13.

## STATE YOUNG MUSICIANS' FESTIVAL

April 6, 1991  
7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.  
First Baptist, Clinton

### SUNDAY SCHOOL EVENTS

#### MARCH

- 10 Home Missions Day in Sunday School
- 23 Small Church Conference - William Carey College, 9:30 a.m. - 3:15 p.m.

#### APRIL

- 5-6 Key Leader Seminar for Sunday School Directors - Baptist Building, Jackson, Begins 7:00 p.m. on the 5th and ends 3:00 p.m. the 6th
- 20-24 Lawrence Association Sunday School Revival -
- 22 Outreach Bible Study/Adult/Youth GrowthStarts - Clarksdale Baptist Church, Clarksdale, and FBC, Starkville, 5:00-9:30 p.m.
- 23 Outreach Bible Study/Adult/Youth GrowthStarts - FBC, Cleveland, and West Jackson Baptist Church, Tupelo, 5:00-9:30 p.m.
- 24 Outreach Bible Study/Adult/Youth GrowthStarts - Parkview Baptist Church, Greenville, and East End Baptist Church, Columbus, 9:30 a.m. 1:00 p.m.
- 25 Outreach Bible Study/Adult/Youth GrowthStarts - North Greenwood Baptist Church, Greenwood, and Highland Baptist Church, Meridian, 5:00 - 9:30 p.m.
- 26-28 Monroe Association Sunday School Revival

#### MAY

- 17-18 Special Ministries Retreat, Camp Garaywa, Clinton

## Sunday School Directors—a Key Leader Seminar with you in mind

The Sunday School Department is sponsoring a Key Leader Seminar at the Baptist Building in Jackson on April 5-6, 1991. This seminar is specifically designed for Sunday School directors. During this meeting, the Sunday School director will discover:

*The Future of Sunday School Work  
for His Church*

*How to Know if His Sunday School is  
Effective*

*How to Grow a Sunday School*

*The Latest in Sunday School Curriculum  
and Resources for All Age Groups*

*How to Plan a Year's Worth of Sunday  
School Work*

Joel Harrison, director of religious education for the Atlanta Baptist Association in Atlanta, Georgia, will be the conference leader. Joel brings unique insights from his experience as a minister of education and associational leader. His experience in working with a variety of sizes and types of churches prepares him in a very special way to be the seminar leader.

The meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m. on April 5. It will conclude at 3:00 p.m. on April 6. There will be a \$10.00 registration fee. This fee will take care of lunch on the 6th and conference materials.

## 1991 Mississippi Baptist State Handbell Festivals set for April

Come ring with us at the State Handbell festivals this April 12-13 at the Mississippi College Coliseum and April 19-20 at Gulfshore Baptist Assembly.

Mary Kay Parrish, Associate Professor of Music at Oklahoma Baptist University is the clinician for the Mississippi College festival and Christine D. Anderson, Handbell Concert Artist, Houston, Texas, is the clinician for the Gulfshore Festival.

Everyone is welcome to attend—youth and adult choirs—other denominations and observers.

**Prais II**  
**Sing**  
A Jubilee Celebration



# 1991 MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST STATE SENIOR ADULT CHOIR FESTIVAL

**April 16, 1991**  
**First Baptist Church, Clinton**

**SPECIAL GUEST ARTIST**  
**Mr. Guy Hovis**  
Formerly with the Lawrence Welk Show



## REGISTRATION – 9:00 a.m.

Registration for the Senior Adult Choir Festival must be made by **April 1, 1991**. There is a registration fee of \$5.00 per person which includes lunch. A check for total registration fees should be sent with the registration form to the Church Music Department, P.O. Box 530, Jackson, Mississippi 39205, in order to complete registration.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Choirs will sing two selections of the director's choice not to exceed eight (8) minutes total time.
2. At check-in, directors should provide two copies of the anthems to be adjudicated. Please be certain the name of the church appears on each copy of music. Number every measure clearly, including the introduction. Any part of a measure counts as a full measure when numbering.

3. Memorization of the anthems for adjudication is not required, but is encouraged.
4. Accompaniment must be piano and/or organ.
5. Certificates will be presented.
6. Choirs should remain for the entire festival.
7. Choirs may attend and not sing for adjudication.

## SCHEDULE

9:00 a.m. ....Registration  
Welcome  
Choirs Sing  
12:00 noon .....Lunch  
1:00 p.m. ....Festival continues

## Bloom Where You're Planted

"Bloom Where You're Planted" is the theme for the 1991 Mississippi Baptist Secretaries Conference, April 8-9 at Camp Garaywa in Clinton.

Registration begins at 10 a.m. on Monday and the conference concludes the next afternoon at 3:45.

The Baptist Book Store will have supplies available for purchase during the entire conference.

There will be displays of clothing by Lucia Holland; calligraphy by Faith Vaughn; woodwork by Connie Seaney; make-up and nail supplies by Gloria Graham; quilting by Debbie Dempsey; and personalized articles by Lois Gambrell. Displays of these will be available from 10 a.m. to noon on Monday only.

Bill Sellers will be available on Monday at 10 a.m. to answer questions about taxes, insurance, annuities, and salary information.

The Mississippi Baptist Secretaries Association will hold its annual meeting and banquet that evening.

General sessions will include: "Bloom...in Time" by Phyllis Blackwell; "Bloom...in Safety" by Jim Ingram; "Bloom...in Beauty" by Carol Simmons; "Bloom...A Challenge" by J.M. Wood; and devotionals by Wilda Fancher.

Simultaneous sessions will be five hours of study course credit work on Lucy Hoskins' book, Church Secretary Handbook, with separate sessions for secretaries who serve as the only secretary, led by Tinie Slade, Gulfport; as one of several secretaries, led by Nancee Ratliff, Tupelo; as associational secretary, led by Mildred Flowers, Laurel; and as agency (college, assembly, BSU, hospital, convention board) secretary, led by Josie Flores, Dallas.

Pre-registration is necessary. Cost is \$25 to cover the cost of lodging and four meals. Meals may be paid for individually if one does not stay overnight. Breakfast is \$3, lunch and supper are \$4 each.

For further information, call the Church Administration-Pastoral Ministries Department, 968-3800.

## REGISTRATION YOUTH MISSIONS CONFERENCE

Pastor \_\_\_\_\_  
Church \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

# Boys \_\_\_\_\_ # Girls \_\_\_\_\_  
# Male Sponsors \_\_\_\_\_ # Female Sponsors \_\_\_\_\_  
Total Attending \_\_\_\_\_

Person Sending Registration  
Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

*Make checks payable to Gulfshore Baptist Assembly*

**Send Registration to**  
Youth Missions Conference  
Gulfshore Baptist Assembly  
Henderson Point  
Pass Christian, MS 39571

## REGISTRATION FORM

1991 Senior Adult Choir Festival  
FBC, Clinton, MS, April 16

Church \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Choir Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Choir Director \_\_\_\_\_

No. Members Attending \_\_\_\_\_ x \$5= \_\_\_\_\_  
(Make checks payable to Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.)

## OUR CHOIR WILL SING THE FOLLOWING SELECTIONS FOR ADJUDICATION

1. title \_\_\_\_\_  
composer \_\_\_\_\_  
publisher \_\_\_\_\_

2. title \_\_\_\_\_  
composer \_\_\_\_\_  
publisher \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Our choir will not sing for adjudication

Return form and fees to the CHURCH MUSIC  
DEPARTMENT, P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205 no  
later than **April 1, 1991**.



**Cooperative  
Program Day  
is April 21**

*Change of Location for*  
**Copiah/Lincoln Senior Adult  
Enrichment Day  
March 26, 1991**

**Macedonia Baptist Church instead of  
First, Brookhaven as first publicized**

9:30 a.m.—1:00 p.m.

**HOUSE OF**





## Baptist Historical Commission meets at MC

Present at the January meeting of the Mississippi Baptist Historical Commission were, left to right, Jean Street, Clinton, indexer of **The Baptist Record**; Jean Bond (Mrs. Marvin), Starkville, vice-president; Anthony Kay, Calhoun City; Billy Williams, Gautier; John Flowers, Senatobia, president; Jack W. Gunn, Cleveland, executive secretary; Alice Cox (Mrs. Prentiss), Clinton, librarian and recording secretary; Richard Ethridge, Decatur; Edward McMillan, Clinton; William D. McCain, Hattiesburg; Talmadge Smith, Brookhaven; and Car-

roll Waller (Mrs. William L.), Jackson. The meeting was held in the library of Mississippi College where the collection of historical materials is located; and, noteworthy was the fact that all nine commission members, as well as the others who work with the commission, were able to be present. Gunn suggests that readers wishing either to receive information about the collection or to deposit historical materials call 925-3434, or write to the Historical Commission at P. O. Box 51, Clinton, MS 39060.

## Faces and places

by Anne Washburn McWilliams

### Silence!

I hate noise. Sometimes I think it wouldn't be bad to be a Trappist and live in a monastery — provided it had a beautiful garden — where no one ever said a word. Probably my husband would predict my quick expulsion, for he doubts I'd keep a vow not to talk.

Finding a place of silence is not easy. At the office, typewriters rattle, the elevator whines, telephones ring, workers converse. When I'm in the car, I hear the motor roar, horns honk, sirens scream . . . At home, the television blares, the refrigerator drones, the dish washer swishes, the washing machine whirs, the clock strikes . . .

Often when I pause to pray, the sound of my own requests and complaints is so loud I can't hear what the Lord is saying to me. "Be quiet. Listen." I would say to my fourth graders a long time ago when I was trying to be a teacher. "You can't talk and listen at the same time." Through the voice of the psalmist, God gave me the same admonition: "Be still . . ."

Somehow, somewhere, I must find a time to be silent and solitary, so that I can listen for His voice. Even Jesus needed such times. "Very early in the

morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where he prayed" (Mark 1:35).

My favorite time of day is at dawn, when the hush of night still lingers and the sounds of the day have not yet begun. High above the bare black branches of the tall oaks in my back yard, the starlight fades. Behind me, on the eastern horizon, a faint glow appears. Already a cardinal is pecking at the birdseed I had spread on the patio. Yesterday I saw squirrels chase the bird away from this food, so I am amused to find it here so early, as if it does indeed know that the early bird gets the worm! By the fence, the sweet smell from a clump of hyacinths lets me know that spring is on its way.

From the east, fingers of pink and orange and gold reach higher and higher. Their reflections paint the clouds overhead and all across the western sky, until I am enveloped in majesty. I marvel. Only God could create such grandeur. I know that he is near, and that he loves me. I find assurance that he will be with me, whatever this new day may bring.

... let all the earth be silent before him (Habakkuk 2:20 NIV).

## Respond to spiritual hunger, Chapman urges Southern Baptists

NASHVILLE (BP) — The Southern Baptist Convention must respond to America's spiritual hunger in these "days of urgency," Southern Baptist Convention President Morris H. Chapman has urged.

"America needs to be awakened spiritually . . ." said Chapman in an address to members of the SBC Executive Committee Feb. 18. "People are hungry to hear a word from God. We must seize the hour."

"I am praying for spiritual awakening to come to Southern Baptists and through Southern Baptists to America."

Chapman, pastor of First Church of Wichita Falls, Texas, said the war in the Persian Gulf has evoked spiritual questions from many Americans. "We can wait no longer to go forth," he warned, and predicted the present "days of urgency" would become "days of expectancy and harvest" if Southern Baptists "bear the precious seed (of the word of God) to every friend, relative, neighbor."

"There is power in the word of God," he said "Power to overcome the world, power to break down all barriers, power to crack hearts of cement."

## Crash survivor returns to China school

OKLAHOMA CITY (BP) — Southern Baptist teacher Erin Thomas planned to step back into her

English class in Meixian, China, five months to the day after crawling from the smoking fuselage of a crash-landed Chinese airliner.

Thomas left the United States Feb. 18 and planned to return to her teaching post at Jia Ying University in Meixian five days before classes began.

The Harrah, Okla., teacher became the focus of international media attention and Southern Baptists' prayers when the Chinese Boeing 737 she was aboard was hijacked Oct. 2 and crash-landed in Guangzhou, China.

The fiery crash killed 132 people, including Thomas' Southern Baptist colleague and friend, Mary Anna Gilbert, 23, of Alexander City, Ala. The two, who were returning to their campus from a short holiday trip inside China, had been teaching in the country only one month.

Thomas, 30, has recovered from the injuries she suffered during the crash. She sustained a dislocated shoulder and several broken bones and developed pneumonia when she inhaled smoke from the burning plane. She also suffered second- and third-degree burns on her right leg. A cast from an earlier broken ankle protected her left leg from burns.

From the beginning of her ordeal, Thomas knew she would return to China, she said. Yet some people seemed surprised when she told them of her plans to return.

Thomas, a graduate of Central State University in Edmond, Okla., taught English as a Southern Baptist worker in Kobe, Japan, from 1987-89. She taught for two years at the Britton Christian Academy in Oklahoma City prior to going to China through Cooperative Services International, the Southern Baptist service organization.



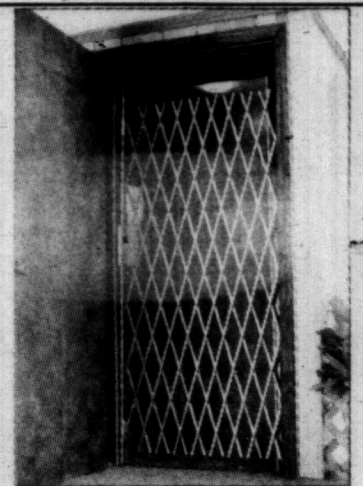
Thomas

## MC will host workshop in reality therapy

A basic intensive workshop in reality therapy will be held at Mississippi College May 1-5, under auspices of the Mississippi College Center for Reality Therapy and the Institute for Reality Therapy. This workshop is the first of five segments required for certification by the internationally known Institute for Reality Therapy founded by William Glasser.

John Robert Cockrum, senior faculty member of the Institute for Reality Therapy and professor in the Department of Behavioral Sciences at Kentucky Wesleyan College, will lead the training. Persons who wish to earn graduate credit will attend additional sessions under the direction of Charles Felder.

For registration information, write the Department of Continuing Education, P. O. Box 4185, Clinton, MS 39058 or telephone 601-925-3263.



## ELEVATORS, STAIRS, PORCH OR WHEELCHAIR LIFTS

For the handicapped or infirm

## CAPITOL ELEVATOR COMPANY, INC.

P. O. Box 3019

1126 Bailey Avenue

Jackson, MS 39207-3019

(601) 355-3881

## Fifth Annual Mississippi Baptists in Broadcasting

April 12-13, 1991

## Calvary Baptist Church, Jackson

Awards Banquet Friday, April 12, 7-9 p.m.

Conferences on Saturday, April 13, 8 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

**PURPOSE:** To provide fellowship, inspiration, recognition, support and training for Mississippi Baptists involved in radio, television, and cable ministries.

### Friday, April 12

7-9 p.m. Awards Banquet

Speaker: Jack Johnson, newly-elected President, Radio & Television Commission, S.B.C.

8:30 p.m. ACTS Affiliates Meeting

### Saturday, April 13

8-9 a.m. Continental Breakfast/Equipment vendors display open  
9 a.m.-Noon Conferences

#### 1. Producing a Worship Service

Led by: Ron Harris, Manager-KCBI, Ft. Worth, Texas

#### 2. Creative TV Production — Beyond the Sanctuary (Shooting the one-camera production)

Led by: John Grable, Owner, Grable Productions, Dallas, Texas



Harris



Grable

Noon-12:45 Lunch

Browse with vendors

12:45 p.m. Conferences continue (hands-on)

2:30 p.m. Adjourn

Cost of \$15 includes awards banquet, continental breakfast, luncheon and workshop materials.

Registration deadline is April 1.

### REGISTRATION FORM

#### Mississippi Baptists In Broadcasting Workshop

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Office Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Church Name \_\_\_\_\_

Total Number persons attending \_\_\_\_\_ × \$15 = \_\_\_\_\_

Total Amount Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

(Make checks payable to: Mississippi Convention Board)

Mail to: Farrell Blankenship, Broadcast Services,  
P. O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530



# NATIONWIDE BIBLE CONFERENCE

## BRIGHT LIGHT FOR DARK DAYS

### A CONFERENCE FOR THE WHOLE CHURCH

**April 17-21, 1991 • Bellevue Baptist Church, Memphis, TN**

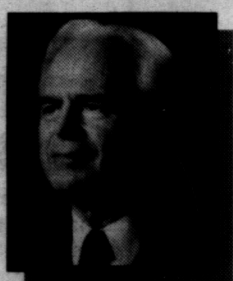
• Seminars for Pastors, Deacons, Staff Members, Lay Leaders & Ladies • Panel discussions • Workshops • Praise Worship Services



### CONFERENCE SPEAKERS



**W.A. Criswell**, First Baptist Church, Dallas, Texas



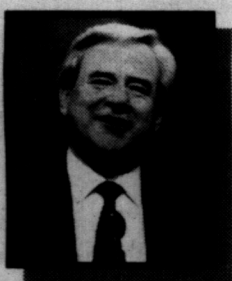
**Stephen Olford**, Encounter Ministries and the Institute for Biblical Preaching, Memphis, Tennessee



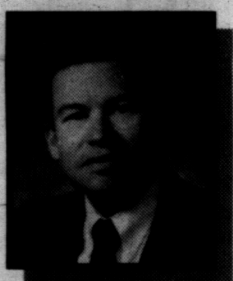
**John Phillips**, Moody Bible Institute, Chicago, Illinois



**Darrell Gilyard**, Victory Baptist Church, Richardson, Texas



**Jerry Falwell**, Thomas Road Baptist Church, Lynchburg, Virginia



**Joel Gregory**, First Baptist Church, Dallas, Texas



**Ron Dunn**, Lifestyle Ministries, Irving, Texas



**Jim Whitmire**, Bellevue Baptist Church, Memphis, Tennessee



### AN INVITATION

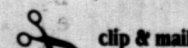
A second Nationwide Bible Conference is being offered because of the many requests from the 1990 "Decade of Destiny" Conference. The 1991 theme is "Bright Light for Dark Days." Preachers and prophets are being assembled to proclaim His Word during these days which are becoming gloriously dark. Bellevue Church will host pastors, deacons, laymen, and wives from across our land for a time of superlative Bible preaching, panel discussions and practical workshops. In the Name of Jesus and with great anticipation, I invite you to this timely conference.

Adrian Rogers, Pastor

**FOR INFORMATION CALL  
901-385-5720**

or write

Nationwide Bible Conference  
Bellevue Baptist Church  
P.O. Box 1210  
Cordova, Tennessee 38018



clip & mail

### REGISTRATION INFORMATION: Nationwide Bible Conference • April 17-21, 1991

**Mail To:** Nationwide Bible Conference  
Bellevue Baptist Church  
P.O. Box 1210  
Cordova, Tennessee 38018

Name (Dr., Rev., Mr., Mrs., Miss) (First) (Middle Initial) (Last)  
Staff Position  
Spouse's Name (if attending)  
Church  
Denomination

Church Address  
City State Zip  
Home Address (if lay person)  
City State Zip  
Home Phone Work Phone  
Anticipated arrival time  
Flight #

**AIRLINE DISCOUNTS:** Special discounts on flights are available by calling Regal Travel at 1-800-562-2076. Please inform the travel agency that you are attending Bellevue's Bible Conference.

**PREREGISTRATION NOTICE:** While preregistration is not required to attend the conference, all who preregister by April 8 may purchase audio-cassette tapes of the conference sessions at a 50 percent reduction. Cut-off date for preregistration is Monday, April 8, 1991.

**CHILD CARE:** Child care for children ages birth through 3 is available by reservation. Call the conference office at (901) 385-5720.



## Registration for Central Hills summer camp will open April 1

Registration for Central Hills Summer Camp 1991 sessions will open April 1. There are two separate camping programs: one for boys in grades 4-12, and one for boys in grades 1-3 who camp with their fathers.

The camp for older boys is called the Royal Ambassador/High School Baptist Young Men Resident Camp. Sessions run Monday-Friday with a maximum attendance of 170. Active participation in an RA or HSBYM unit is not required for a boy to register for a session.

The camp for younger boys and their fathers is called Lad/Dad Camp. Sessions run Friday-Saturday with a maximum attendance of 100.

Each camp must complete an individual registration form which may be obtained from Central Hills Baptist Retreat, Box 237, Kosciusko, MS 39090-0237, phone 289-9730; from the church or associational office, or the Brotherhood Department, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, phone 968-3800.

Sessions for the older group will be: June 17-21; June 24-28; July 8-12; July 15-19; July 22-26; and July 29-Aug. 2.

Sessions for the Lad/Dad camps will be June 14-15; June 28-29; and July 12-13.

Each camper will need to list his choice of bunk mate on the registration form.

Camp fee for the older boys is \$86 per person payable with the registration form. It provides lodging, meals, "first call" insurance, snacks, and crafts.

The camp fee for Lad/Dad camp is \$22.50 per person payable with the registration form.

Central Hills Manager Dan West said that the early weeks of the summer "provide the advantage of good climate and the fresh enthusiasm of the staffers." He said associations can work together by pooling transportation for a given week.

"Several volunteer counselors are needed for each RA/HSBYM resident camp session," said West. "A volunteer can enlist a group of boys from his church or community and help with transportation for that group." To volunteer, contact West at Central Hills.

## It's time to nominate pages for the SBC

Each year the High School Baptist Young Men who serve as pages during the Southern Baptist Convention make a vital contribution to the SBC leaders and volunteers who work at the convention.

These young men are nominated by their churches and selected by their states to represent all High School Baptist Young Men. It is now time for state Brotherhood departments to receive the nominations.

Requirements for selection include being active in a High School Baptist Young Men's program, in grades 10-12 the year they are nominated, and having completed both the base unit and one additional unit from Mission Challenge.

Once selected, the page or his church is responsible for his travel to and from the convention. Food and lodging is paid for by the state and SBC Brotherhood commissions.

Those who have young men eligible to be pages should contact the Mississippi Brotherhood office prior to April 1, 1991.

## Revival dates

State Boulevard Church (Lauderdale): March 17-21; 7 p.m.; Ken Story, Germantown Church, Germantown, Tenn., evangelist; Steve Shirk, Paris, Tenn., music evangelist; Dennis R. Jones, pastor.

Gum Grove Church, Brookhaven (Lincoln): Mar. 10-15; Robert Dunn, pastor, Dublin Church, Prentiss, evangelist; Ken Hedgepeth, minister of music at Eastside, Pearl, music leader; Sunday services, 11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.; dinner on the grounds; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; choir practices 6:30 nightly; cottage prayer services 6:30 p.m., Mar. 4, 5, 7; Sammy J. McDonald, pastor.

Pleasant Ridge Church, Sturgis (Oktibbeha): March 10-13; Sunday, 6 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.; J. B. Costilow, Liberty Church, Newton, evangelist; Hugh Moreland, Starkville, Trinity Church, West Point, music; Larry Haggard, pastor.

Calvary Church, Pascagoula: March 17-21; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 7 each evening; Randy Davis, pastor, First Church, Vancleave, evangelist; Jimmy Little, First Church, Long Beach, music; George D. Berger, pastor.

## Staff changes

Juniper Grove Church, Poplarville, announces the arrival of its new pastor, Phil Hanberry. Hanberry moved Feb. 1 to Juniper Grove from Cornerstone Mission, Mandeville, La., where he served as interim pastor. Hanberry received the bachelor of science degree from the University of Southern Mississippi. He is currently at New Orleans Seminary and plans to graduate in May 1991.



Hanberry is currently at New Orleans Seminary and plans to graduate in May 1991.

Jon Daniels has accepted the position of minister of youth at First Church, Brookhaven, effective Feb. 1. He moved to Brookhaven from Southside Church, Jackson, where he served as minister of youth and education. A graduate of Mississippi College, he received the master of divinity degree from New Orleans Seminary. Robert E. Self is pastor.

John Gibson has accepted the call as pastor of First Church, Greenwood, where he served as youth director from 1979-1982. He is a graduate of Mississippi College and served as director of college relations at New Orleans Seminary. His previous place of service was White Sand Church in Poplarville.



Gibson

Tom Jenkins has become the minister of music and youth at First Church of Sharon in Laurel. He goes from Agricola Church in Agricola, as minister of music and activities. He has a music degree from University of Southern Mississippi and an MM from Southwestern Seminary.



Jenkins

Calvary Church, Pascagoula, has called Paul E. Bennett as minister of youth, effective Feb. 17. A native of Pascagoula, he received his education at Baptist Bible Institute and New Orleans Seminary. His previous place of service was Echeder Family Youth Alternatives in Silver Springs, Fla.

## Off the Record

A fourth-grade teacher, discussing heroines from history, asked the class if it knew who Joan of Arc was.

"I think," piped a small voice from the rear of the room, "she was Noah's wife."

When one of Martha's little friends came to see her she found Martha playing with her new housekeeping set.

"Are you washing dishes?" asked the friend.

"Yes," replied Martha, "and I'm drying them, too, 'cause I'm not married yet."

## Senior adult corner

The Area VII Senior Adult Enrichment Rally scheduled for Tuesday, March 26, will meet at Macedonia Church in Brookhaven. The theme is "Senior Adults Sharing and Receiving the Blessing." The time will be 9:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Registration of \$4 each provides the lunch. Talmadge E. Smith is coordinator.

The reorganized Young at Heart Club of Center Hill Church, Hamilton, elected Norman Reese as coordinator and Mrs. J. W. McLemore as secretary-treasurer, as well as outreach, program, and publicity committees. Monthly meetings will be held.

The costs of trips, meals, and subscriptions to Mature Living to members defrayed in part by the church this year, will enable same to be budgeted next year. James Towery is pastor.

## Names in the news

Cliff Allbritton, editor of Christian Single magazine produced by the Family Ministry Department of the Baptist Sunday School Board, took early retirement March 1, 1991 to begin a new ministry. Allbritton became editor of the magazine Jan. 1, 1979, four months before the first issue was released in April of that year. Under his leadership the magazine grew to an international readership selling over 13.5 million copies and contributing over \$6.5 million dollars to the Sunday School Board. He is starting a new ministry to single and married adults: Successful Living Institute. The first two resources available are "The Keys to Intimacy" and "The Secrets of Money," the first of a planned 16 audio cassette series. For more information contact Allbritton by writing to Successful Living Institute, P. O. Box 218137, Nashville, TN 37221-8137.



Mike Alexander, pictured left, a member of Enon Church, Jayess, was licensed on Jan. 27 to preach the gospel. He is attending Southeastern Baptist College in Laurel. Alexander has surrendered to a call into evangelism and is available for supply, interim, and revivals. He can be contacted at Rt. 1, Box 156AA, Jayess, MS 39641 or call 684-5008. Kenneth Moore, right, is pastor of Enon Church.

Mary Nemcek, chairperson of the division of nursing at William Carey College, has been included in The Great Hundred Nurses for 1991. Nemcek will be honored at a reception in April. The recognition is sponsored by the New Orleans District Nurses Association.

"Easthaven Church, Richland, has recently had the privilege of sharing a small part in the advancement of two dedicated men, to further the kingdom of our Lord," states the pastor, Paul Jordan. Thomas McKay, who was elected as Easthaven's associate pastor and ordained in October, 1990, is now available for pulpit supply or interim pastorate (phone 932-6444). Mike Clore, whom Easthaven on Jan. 13, 1991, licensed to preach the gospel, is now available for pulpit supply (phone 939-9613).

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# Christians must accept sexual responsibility

By Ruth N. Allen  
1 Corinthians 6:9-20

In January, *The Clarion Ledger* carried a report prepared by the Centers for Disease Control. A brief excerpt of the report follows: "Sexual activity among young American women has soared in the last two decades to the point where more than half of those ages 15 to 19 have had premarital sex, according to a report by federal health and behavior researchers.

The report shows 51.5 percent reporting premarital sex by their late teens. Those figures — from 1988 data — are nearly double the 28.6 in 1970. While the most current data show 25.6 percent of the girls age 15 have had sex, the figure reaches 75.3 percent for their counterparts age 19.

The findings are not good news for those hoping the '70s and '80s would prove to be more sexually conservative than during the swinging '60s. If the message in this age of AIDS is that sex can be dangerous, many young people didn't get it, researchers said.

Another section of the same newspaper car-

## UNIFORM

ried the following report: "A New Testament professor says evangelicals may be 'gaining political and numerical victories but they are losing the war of morality.' Robert L. Thomas of The Master's Seminary in Sun Valley, Calif., said about 40 million Americans call themselves evangelical Protestants, and polls show commitment to Christ has risen from 60 percent of Americans in 1978 to 74 percent in 1990.

"The figures should mean 'higher ethical standards' but instead the trend is the opposite, he told an evangelical group meeting in New Orleans. He cited abortion, pornography, drug and alcohol abuse, and the acceptance of homosexuality as evidence."

The two reports confirm a moral deterioration in America which rivals first century, pagan Corinth. Christians of today must confront the issue of immorality squarely, as did the apostle Paul. The high percentage of participants reflected in these articles indicates some of those involved claim faith in Jesus Christ. Paul, facing the problem of immorality, reminds the Corinthian Christians of several

basic truths which could not be ignored. Neither can Christians and the churches of today ignore the problems caused by immorality.

Paul stresses, "The kingdom of God is for the righteous," (vv. 9-11). The unrighteous do not share in the kingdom because they alienate themselves by their sinful actions, and they do not inherit the kingdom of God. The righteous have been washed and cleansed. Therefore, unrighteous living is not the dominant force in their lives.

"All things are lawful unto me, but all things are not expedient," (v. 12). Some of the Corinthian Christians were subscribing to current pagan thought, which said in essence, "If the law allows it, it must be all right." Paul immediately contradicts this concept by saying, "It may be lawful, but it is not helpful." There are many things allowed by our laws today, but they are not good for the individual. In fact, many of our laws violate the commands of our God.

"Our bodies are members of Christ," (v. 15). Paul reminds us that those who prostitute themselves to another become one with their partners. The Jews always insisted upon marriage, for they said, "In wedlock separate ownership of the person ceases." A Christian must know his body is a spiritual union with

Christ and flee from fornication, for in fornication one sins against his own body. This fact becomes more real as the number of AIDS cases continue to rise.

In both Moses' tabernacle and Solomon's temple the most sacred place was the Holy of Holies, because this symbolizes the presence of God. Jesus, having exposed the Holy of Holies by his death, resides in the hearts of the redeemed. As Christians, we fully realize "We are not our own, for we have been bought with a price," (vv. 19-20), and Christ's spirit resides in us. God is then glorified as we dedicate our bodies to him.

There is a price attached to being pure as demonstrated by the ermine. The fur of the ermine has been cherished by royalty through the years. The small animals were extremely fastidious in keeping their fur clean. Trappers used this trait to capture the secretive animals. The ermine would be frightened out of his den; filth would be smeared on the den entrance, the trapper would then await the return of the ermine. Rather than seek safety in his den and soiling its fur, the animal turned instead to its death.

Allen of Jackson is the wife of Judd Allen, pastor of Ogden Church, Bentonla.

# An unforgettable example: Jesus and the Last Supper

By Jerry Vardaman  
Luke 22:1-62

One of the most revealing things ever said about Judas is given to us by Luke. He says that Judas "... went his way ... how he might betray Jesus unto them."

In a real sense, every time a person chooses deliberately to sin, that person "... goes his/her way ... and betrays Jesus." In this lesson, we will pay attention to Jesus who was led by the Father's will to die for us. All of the way through Jesus' life he could have followed a different path from the path which led to the cross. If Jesus had not chosen that difficult road which led to his death, lost sinners today would have no opportunity for salvation.

The Passover that Jesus and his disciples celebrated was instituted to remember how God had delivered his people while they served in Egyptian bondage. The plagues which God sent upon the Egyptians were finalized and climaxed by the death of the male firstborn of every Egyptian — human and cattle. The Jews were to place a mark (resembling a cross, for this is the meaning of the Hebrew word) upon

## BIBLE BOOK

their doorposts. When the death angel passed over the dwellings of the land, those who had this cross on their dwellings were to be spared.

Jesus filled this ancient, traditional feast of the Jews with new meaning. His blood, not that of a lamb, would be shed on the cross. We, as his disciples from now on, are to continue this passover in memory of what he has done to deliver us. The Jews could never have been delivered in their bondage had it not been for God's grace. We could never have been delivered from our sins without the grace of Christ in dying for us. This is why Paul said that Christ our passover has now been offered for us (1 Cor. 5:7).

As far as the young man carrying a jar of water is concerned, one can easily see how this would be a sign to those disciples who were to prepare the arrangements for the Last Supper. It is rare for men to carry water jars, a task reserved for women in the Near East. Jesus was deliberately concealing his plans from someone — no doubt Judas.

The water the youth was carrying (likely this person was Mark) would be needed to fill the

basin so as to wash the disciples' feet, as well as purposes of cooking the food. Archaeologists have found some of these footbaths (this is what they are called in John's Gospel in the new Bodmer Papyrus II — dates to about A.D. 175 and give us the new term, *podoniptera*); the water would become very filthy, and to carry the vessel (the handle was on the inside bottom), the hand of the person handling it would become filthy since a great deal of manure had to be washed off of each person's feet. Also, each person eating would need to wash his hands, and each vessel had to be washed after use, so Jesus' plan to have this meal in privacy, without Judas' knowledge, went smoothly. Luke tells us that Judas was seeking to betray Jesus and his whereabouts to his enemies in secrecy, but Jesus would not be caught off guard in that way.

At the same time Jesus warned Christians not to be caught off guard by worldly aspirations and standards. Gentile monarchs were called benefactors very frequently (*Euergetes* is a word which means a "doer of good"; by this was meant that such patrons gave money for buildings, temples, etc.). Such monarchs loved the praise of men and of the world. Jesus warns us not to be so guided by worldly standards, but by the standards of righteousness and in sensitivity to the will of God. No monarch would choose the path of Jesus — but of Judas.

Even the various members of the family of King Herod are frequently called benefactors, as we learn from inscriptions, but Jesus chose a higher path for himself.

We live in a day, when even in the area of religious ideals and practices, misguided religious zealots (like Judas) have forgotten the example of Jesus and have lined out the path which they will follow: the path of power, prestige, domination — at any price, and regardless of the hurt and damage which this causes to the truth, or of the peace of a church or denomination. May Jesus' true disciples be guided by his example, and serve others to that degree that we will manifest his love and be recognized as his disciples. "By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another" (John 13:35). This path of Jesus seems so simple, but no one can walk it without his help and daily empowerment. Knowing that he came from God and was soon to rejoin his Father in heaven, by doing the most distasteful job at the Passover — washing the feet of disciples who would thus be qualified to recline on tapestries and couches — he speaks to us still and says that the most humble service that we can find and do, is the kind of service which he carried out while he was here.

Vardaman is professor of archaeology, Mississippi State University.

# Accomplishing the mission of Jesus: oneness with God

By Benny Still  
John 17:13-23, 25-26

In this week's lesson, we hear the heart-cry of Jesus as he prayed to the Father on our behalf. Somehow, it is hard for me to comprehend that Jesus, the Son of God, would actually say a prayer to God for me! I've heard of folks seeking out particular people to pray for them and their problems because they felt this person had a more 'direct line' to God. But how much more direct could you get than to have Jesus himself voice his concern for you to the Father? That's awesome any way you look at it! Jesus wanted our joy to be complete (v. 13). He wanted us to be protected from the evil one (v. 15). He wanted us to be set apart in our service to him (vv. 17-19). He wanted everyone to hear the Gospel through our testimony of faith (v. 20), so that we all might be one in him (vv. 21, 23). He expressed his desire to God that we be able to experience the glory of heaven (v. 24), and that we be able to experience him and his love within our very beings (v. 26).

In expressing his desire that we have the

## LIFE AND WORK

same joy that he had experienced in fulfilling God's purpose for his life (v. 13), he must have been aware that the world would be hostile toward those who express an active faith and belief in God. In Jesus' day, it was chic to be religious. The Pharisees cornered the market on self-righteous religiosity. But the messages of Jesus were turning the tide against organized religion from an attitude of obligatory service to God to an attitude of service based on willful obedience to God.

Jesus expressed that we are in the world, but we are no more a part of this world than he was a part of it (vv. 14-16). It's true enough that we can't isolate ourselves from the world, but we do have a say in what we allow to influence our lives. Bob Hartman caught the spirit of this passage in his song "Why Should the Father Bother?": "Once we were lost out on the ocean with no direction or devotion, tossed about by every wind and wave. Now we are in the world, not of it, and we can surely rise above it, because the Lord has risen from the grave." How true that is! Without the sustaining power and grace of our Lord, there is no way we could ever rise above the magnetism of the world's temptations. But because he was victorious, we can be, too!

In verse 15, Jesus expressed his concern for our protection from evil while we remain in the world. James 4:7 says, "Resist the devil and he will flee from you." If we never put up our guard — or, at best, only occasionally try to resist the devil — we can be sure of taking more punches than the Lord wants us to take. We are less likely to succumb to the temptations of this world if we avoid them from the start. That's the best way to avoid Satan, simply resist him!

The word "sanctify" in verses 17-19 comes from the Greek *hagiazō* which means "to set apart for sacred use" or "make holy." As Jesus set himself apart for a particular mission, even so has he sanctified us; that is, set us apart for service in his kingdom. I like how he did that. In verse 17 he prays for God to sanctify us by the truth. And then he gives the reason: "because your Word is Truth." That makes me remember the verse I learned as a boy from Psalm 119:11: "Thy word have I hid in my heart that I might not sin against Thee." So, if God is to sanctify us with his truth, one way we can keep ourselves pure in this world is by studying his Word and hiding it in our hearts. Then, we can be set apart for his divine will and work.

Have you ever talked to someone, paused for a second in mid-sentence, and had the other person finish your statement word for word as you were thinking it? That indicates a spirit of

oneness. In verses 20-23, Jesus expressed his desire that we might experience the oneness with each other that he experiences with the Father. If we strive for that, and actually experience a oneness of spirit and purpose like that of Jesus with the Father, we have assurance from the Lord that our witness is indeed validated. The desire of our Lord is to see his followers display such a love for one another that the world will recognize God as the source of that love (v. 25-26).

Last week at the BREAKTHROUGH Sunday School Conference, Bill Causey prayed that God would use the witness of Christians in our Armed Forces in the Middle East to exemplify Christ to the Islamic world. A soldier was interviewed on the news that very night who said, "These Iraqis are so ill-equipped and hungry and tired. We are trying to take care of them as best we can. They are humans, too." I couldn't help but think that God had already started answering Causey's prayer. We can reveal the Father to the world by our outward expressions of love and compassion to our fellowmen. We have to make a choice to be his disciples. When we have made that choice, we must be consistent in order for Jesus' mission to be fulfilled through us.

Still is pastor, Poplar Springs Church, Mendenhall.



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## Gifts of Honor and Memory

A portion of the Village View is allocated each month to a list of Gifts of Honor and Memory. Many groups and individuals elect to pay tribute to others through this sensitive, meaningful and helpful medium. This feature is hopefully designed to further honor, with taste and respect, those who are and have been special to our special friends.

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Mr. & Mrs. Larry Holland  
Mrs. Glen (Janie Mae)  
Frierson  
Mr. & Mrs. W. G. Smith  
Mrs. Martice Travis  
Mr. & Mrs. Cletus E.  
McCurley  
Adult II Bible Class Galilee  
1st BC  
Mrs. Maude J. Barney  
Mr. & Mrs. Glen Frierson  
Mr. & Mrs. L. L. Stokes  
Mrs. Virginia Fulgham  
Mr. & Mrs. Roy A. Meeks  
Mrs. Maxine Gandy  
Mr. Billy Frank Ferrell  
Mrs. Eva Lusk  
Carl Garrigues  
Mr. & Mrs. Roy Etheridge  
Mr. John B. Gill  
Mr. & Mrs. A. L. Benton  
Mrs. Roberta Lee  
Mr. & Mrs. W. K. Riggan  
Evelyn Holmes  
Marilyn McGehee  
Mrs. Vida Shoemaker  
Mrs. William A. Pickett  
Mrs. W. H. Sumrall  
Ms. Margaret Suttle  
Ms. Mary Katherine Wilson  
Mr. & Mrs. E. G. Morrison  
Mr. & Mrs. Ray R. Cannada  
Berry R. Givens  
Dr. & Mrs. Lewis G. Sewell  
Miss Wendy Carol Goodman  
Mr. & Mrs. Ernest Lowery  
Ellis, Anna, Woody & Tiffany  
Earls  
Mr. & Mrs. Tommy Howard  
Mr. & Mrs. Gordon Mitchell  
& Kevin  
Mrs. Lois Mitchell  
Mrs. Dot Gray  
Mr. & Mrs. W. B. Badon  
Miss Christine Turney  
Mr. & Mrs. Ben Turney  
Mr. Earl Greene  
Mr. & Mrs. Brooks Earnest  
Mrs. June Boone Greene  
Mr. & Mrs. W. P. McWilliams  
Jr.  
Mrs. Byrd Gay Griffin  
Forest Baptist Church  
Tom Griffin  
Mr. & Mrs. Jack Lockwood  
Mrs. Ona Griffith  
Mrs. Wood Magee  
Mr. & Mrs. Merle A. Riley  
Mr. & Mrs. James R. Rogers  
Sr.  
Mr. & Mrs. Herman L.  
Dungan Jr.  
Mrs. Hosea A. Grisham  
Mr. & Mrs. Gene Clement  
Mrs. Leona Grubbs  
Mrs. Fred E. Kennedy  
Chris Haley  
Mrs. Joseph M. Moore  
Mr. Hansel Ham  
Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Johnson

Dewey Hambrick  
Mr. & Mrs. Paul W. Gaither  
Mr. Marlon Ray Sowell  
Mrs. Dewey Hambrick  
Dr. & Mrs. William Boteler &  
Staff  
Sam L. Hamilton  
Providence Baptist Church  
Mr. & Mrs. C. M. Mitchell  
Mrs. Hammons  
Mr. & Mrs. Myrl McCormick  
Mr. William E. Hannah  
Mr. & Mrs. Roy Cliburn  
Mr. & Mrs. Pat Ingram  
Mr. & Mrs. Gomer Wallace  
Mrs. Kathryn C. Hargrove  
Mr. & Mrs. Lamar Arthur  
Mrs. Cecil Boswell  
Mrs. Ruby H. Harper, Sr.  
Mrs. Joseph Whitaker  
Mr. J. P. Hart  
Mrs. Stanley Perkins  
Lawrence Perkins  
Mrs. Pauline Harvey  
Mrs. Undine Spain  
Mr. O. L. Hatton  
Ms. Hazel Buckley  
Mrs. Alice Mangum  
Marion Hays  
Mrs. Dennis W. Hays  
Mr. John Hays  
Mr. & Mrs. Harry O'Neal Jr.  
Mr. Loyd Heflin, Jr.  
Ms. Waurene & Miss  
Rhianon Heflin  
Mr. Hollis Henley  
Dr. & Mrs. Roy W. Daughdrill  
Mrs. Ollie Henson  
Mr. & Mrs. B. F. Hawkins  
Mr. Ralph Hester  
Mrs. Ross F. Bass  
Mr. & Mrs. Carl Black  
Boyles, Moak & Stone  
Chapel Bible Class, FBC  
Jackson  
Mrs. Charles Hooker  
Tom, Connie & Frank Kossen  
Mr. & Mrs. Paul J. Pryor  
Mr. & Mrs. Travis S. Roberts  
Mr. G. B. Shaw  
Mrs. Daisy W. Sills  
Mrs. Ann G. Stanford  
Mrs. W. H. Sumrall  
Dr. & Mrs. Richard W. Tyer  
Ralph Hester  
Mr. & Mrs. Pete Conerly  
McAdams High School Class  
of 1932  
Mrs. Aline Hicks  
Mr. & Mrs. N. C. Turner  
Mr. & Mrs. Sam Lackey  
Mrs. Annie Zell Hightower  
Mrs. Joseph W. Cobb  
Mrs. Kathryn Cooper  
Robert Hill  
Mr. & Mrs. P. N. Conerly  
Mrs. Edna Holloway  
Mr. & Mrs. Fred H.  
Blackledge  
Mother of Mrs. Willie Holton  
Mrs. Mary Scruggs  
Mrs. Aileen W. Huff  
Mr. & Mrs. Hugh Robinson  
Mrs. Eloise Hughes  
Mrs. R. E. Barfield Sr.  
Mr. & Mrs. John E.  
Branscome  
Mrs. Sallie Eloise Thornton  
Hughes  
Mr. James H. Cannon  
Mrs. Mary Pace Hurst  
Mrs. Rene Speed  
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Speights,  
Joel & Judy  
Mr. & Mrs. Merle A. Riley  
Mr. & Mrs. James R. Rogers  
Sr.  
Waddell Hurt  
Mr. & Mrs. Curtis E. Miller  
Mrs. Carrie Iles  
Mr. & Mrs. David Croft  
Mrs. Easter Ivy  
Siloam Baptist Church  
Charles Jackson, Sr.  
Mr. & Mrs. J. A. Thigpen Jr.  
Kyle Jackson  
Mr. & Mrs. Larry Franklin  
Mr. David Jackson  
Forest Baptist Church  
Mr. Hulon Jackson  
Mr. & Mrs. Jack D. Berry  
Dr. Henry Jacob  
Mr. & Mrs. Bobby Horton,  
Brad & Jason  
Mr. Muller Johnson  
Mr. & Mrs. Oliver N. King  
Dr. George W. Johnston  
Mr. E. W. Permenter  
Dave S. Jones  
Ms. Ann Beck Collier  
Mrs. Clara Jones  
Mrs. Ruby S. Boggan  
Ray Jones  
Mrs. Fannie M. Scott  
Mrs. Ruby Jones  
Mrs. Nathan Legge

Ann Jordan  
McAdams Baptist Church  
Mr. William Wilson (Bill)  
Jordan  
Mrs. T. R. Barrett  
Ms. Ann Crochet  
Mrs. J. L. Cutts  
Mr. & Mrs. Earl Daniels  
Jane J. Gayle  
Mary J. Irving  
Mrs. Edith Aldridge  
Mr. & Mrs. Mike Lammons  
Mrs. Nell A. Dixon  
Mrs. Elyne H. Fryer  
Mrs. Johanna Johnson  
Mrs. Len R. Ware  
Mr. & Mrs. Charles R.  
Ellison  
Mr. George Ellison III  
Mr. & Mrs. Fred Powers  
Mr. & Mrs. William L.  
Zeigler Jr.  
Mrs. Louise M. Gwin  
Miss Sue Power  
Mrs. W. E. Thurmond Sr.  
Clara & Jackie  
Doris, Ruby Frances, Elly,  
Frances  
Mrs. Sammie Edwards Smith  
Mrs. Mary Margaret Keene  
Mr. & Mrs. Woodie L. Tharp  
Dr. Jewel H. Kyzar  
Mrs. Martice Travis  
Mr. & Mrs. Cletus E.  
McCurley  
Adult II Bible Class, Galilee  
FBC  
Mrs. Maude J. Barney  
Mrs. Ruby S. Boggan  
Margie & Archie Campbell &  
Family  
Mr. & Mrs. Raymond L.  
Craig  
Mrs. D. E. Farmer  
Mr. James P. Knight  
Mr. & Mrs. Myrl McCormick  
Sr. Adult SS, Siloam BC  
Mr. & Mrs. John Coleman  
Mrs. Lorena Dean  
Mr. & Mrs. Gene Millsaps  
Ms. Alice C. Zumbro  
Mr. & Mrs. J. D. Cloy  
Mr. & Mrs. W. P. McWilliams  
Jr.  
Mrs. Jane B. Watters  
Siloam Baptist Church  
Mrs. Elizabeth Tate

Polk Keith  
Mrs. Ollie Manton  
Mr. & Mrs. Ruby Robbins &  
Family  
Ms. Imogene Robbins  
Mr. & Mrs. John Saulters &  
Family  
Mrs. Margaret King  
Mrs. Billie D. Whitfield  
Mr. & Mrs. James W. Henry  
Jr.  
Mr. & Mrs. Herman M.  
Mason  
Mr. O. Benson Kirkland  
Mr. & Mrs. Raymond F.  
Quinn  
Mr. & Mrs. George  
McClintock  
Charles Benford Knight  
Mrs. Rebecca Jackson

(To be continued)

### HONORS

Maureen & Keith Allen  
Mr. & Mrs. Lon D. Pepper  
Rev. Leo Barker  
Mrs. Juanita McVey  
Mrs. Louise Chamberlain  
Eloise Crossley SS, FBC  
Columbus  
Mrs. W. A. Fant  
Mitchell-Fant SS, Calvary BC  
Opal & William Ferrell  
Mr. & Mrs. Lon D. Pepper  
Mrs. Velma Garner  
Nelda G. Gilliam  
Golden Age Sunday School  
Goss Baptist Church  
Mr. Walter Hallberg, Jr.  
Grayson SS, Gibson  
Memorial Methodist  
Church  
Mrs. Haywood Hubbard  
Mrs. S. H. Beatty  
Mrs. Nell Lewis  
Mrs. Jean Allgood  
Mrs. Dorothy Mangold  
Mr. & Mrs. Billy Mangold  
Mr. Cole Patridge  
Men's SS, FBC Grenada  
Miss Mary Edith Waggoner  
Miss Beverly Harden  
Mrs. Lodena Waggoner  
Miss Beverly Harden  
Mrs. Cleveland Whitten  
TEL Sunday School, FBC  
Charleston



Dr. William Wheeler, Jr., Associate Professor and Head Psychology Department at Mississippi College is currently involved in a 14 hour training program in Crisis Management on the India Nunnery Campus of The Village. Childcare, Social Services and Supervisory Staff are attending this as a part of the in-service curriculum of the current year.

Dr. Wheeler brings extensive training and experience as a trainer, consultant and supervisor into group child care. He is proving to be both interesting and beneficial to Village staff as they strive to minister to children and families in the most professional and caring manner possible.





## Youth Week: March 10-17

RAWLINS, Wyo. — Kenna Schumaker, a ninth grader and member of First Southern Baptist Church of Rawlins, Wyo., demonstrates commitment to serving her church as she helps register guests for the dedication service of their new church building. Schumaker is one of many Southern Baptist youths, who will participate in Youth Week which will be observed Mar. 10-17 in many churches. "Commitment — Foundation for Service" is the theme for Youth Week which is sponsored by the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board's Discipleship Training Department. (Photo by Jim Veneman.)

### Devotional

## No enemies?

By Roger A. Paynter

To make the claim that "Jesus Christ is the Lord of my life" is a guaranteed way to make enemies. This is often forgotten in our time when such an idol is made out of "compromise." Compromise can be an effective tool in the midst of conflict, but too often it is just a way to keep from making enemies. How many times have you heard it said of a man, "He didn't have an enemy in the world!" and it was meant as a tribute? It is quite possible that those words, if they are true, are not a tribute but an indictment. For they could mean that in many important ways this man was so docile that he never stood for anything significant. Imagine saying of the apostle Paul, "He didn't have an enemy in the world!" He made enemies in every port and in all likelihood died with his head on the chopping block. Imagine saying Martin Luther or any of the Reformers, "He didn't have an enemy!" Imagine saying that of any of the Old Testament prophets. Imagine saying that of Jesus.

To follow the Lord who reigned from a cross is sometimes to make a thorough nuisance of yourself. This does not mean going out picking fights and looking for enemies. It means living the Christlife with such commitment that the enemies just come. Early Christians were known as "those who turned the world upside down." Unfortunately, a lot of Christians these days wouldn't turn a teacup upside down.

Good Friday and Easter await us this month. As we draw close let us ask ourselves how we think we can follow in the path of the One who was crucified and never make an enemy?

Paynter is pastor, Northminster Church, Jackson.

## Holman will release Bible dictionary

NASHVILLE — A 1,300-page Bible dictionary designed specifically for laypersons is scheduled to be released during the 1991 Southern Baptist Convention meeting in Atlanta, June 4-6.

Six years in the making, the Holman Bible Dictionary "is an attempt to take the latest academic knowledge about the Bible and place it at the fingertips of the church," said Trent Butler, manager of the Bible and textbooks section at the Sunday School Board. "Every word that appears in the Bible with any significant theological meaning is identified or defined in this dictionary," he said.

More than 500 authors contributed to the publication, said Butler.

The dictionary, which is keyed to

the New American Standard, New Revised Standard, New International, Today's English, and Revised English versions of the Bible, features approximately 600 color illustrations and extensive articles on such subjects as salvation, Christology, redemption, security of the believer, and the nature of God.

"The dictionary also includes articles on topics people don't ordinarily read about, such as economic life in biblical times, Jewish parties and sects, and inter-testamental history in literature," Butler said. "If someone wants a mini-course in theology, they can simply go through this book," he said.

Several maps will be included in the dictionary to help readers identify

# Cities are new frontier for home missionaries

By Mark Wingfield

ATLANTA — America's cities are the new frontier in Southern Baptist home missions.

Preliminary reports from the 1990 U.S. Census indicate nearly half of all Americans now live in metropolitan areas with populations of 1 million or more. In contrast, less than 18 percent of Southern Baptist churches and less than 26 percent of all Southern Baptists are located in those same metropolitan areas.

Through the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for home missions, all churches — whether rural or urban — contribute to urban ministries across America. The annual home missions offering supports missionaries like George Russ, who works with four metropolitan areas in New York state: New York City, Long Island, Rochester, and Buffalo.

Russ helps churches find ways to overcome the barriers to evangelism they may perceive as insurmountable.

For example, in a newly developed, affluent area of suburban New Jersey, 25,000 people are moving into apartments and condominiums with security systems that prevent door-to-door visitation.

To reach those urban dwellers with the gospel, Russ is training Christians who live inside the complexes to hold Bible studies in their homes and act as chaplains to their neighbors.

Too often, Russ says, churches are paralyzed by suspicion and fear. "They think the city is a bad place and they don't want to get out there. It's not the big, bad city that's the pro-

blem. It's the mentality inside the church that's the problem.

"New York City is nothing but a bunch of neighborhoods. Behind all the bigness there are obvious social patterns. We've got to find ways to get involved in those patterns."

Home missions efforts in America's cities will impact foreign missions as well, Russ believes.

"For the first time it is possible for

Southern Baptists to reach the world if we'll reach the cities," he says, citing the high concentration of internationals in metropolitan areas. Many of these people go back to countries we could never get in. But we've got their kids, we've got their students, we've got their businessmen right here. It's a divine moment."

Wingfield writes for HMB.



WINNING THE CITY — Southern Baptist home missionary George Russ lives and works in the New York City metropolitan area. In his job as coordinator for evangelism for the Metropolitan New York City Baptist Association, Russ develops strategies to reach America's largest metropolitan area with the gospel. (HMB Photo)

## Clarke interfaith team scores successful first

The Clarke County Interfaith Witness Department has scored another first for Mississippi, according to Cary Worthington, the association's Interfaith Witness director.

Instead of the usual broad conference on the occult, previously taught by one person, the Clarke County Interfaith director enlisted other associates who were certified in the occult to teach specific areas on the subject. The conference was held February 21 and included The World of Witchcraft, taught by James Harris; The World of Demons, taught by Ferrell Morris; The World of Satanism, taught by Eunice Bryant, wife of state Interfaith Witness coordinator, Hollis Bryant; and the World of Astrology, taught by Worthington.

Proceedings were hosted by First Church, Quitman. The host pastor, Rex Yancey, who is also president of the Executive Committee, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, was a conference participant.

Grady Crowell, director of missions, Clarke Association, pointed out that three of the four conference leaders were pastors in the association and that Cary Worthington and Eunice Bryant had been selected as the Interfaith Witness Associates of the Year for 1989 and 1990 by the Interfaith Witness Department of the Home Mission Board, SBC.

Each participant had opportunity to attend two of the four sessions offered. Crowell said, "I hope we can do this again at our next quarterly conference."

Clarke County Association is one of few associations in the country that hold regular quarterly Interfaith Witness Awareness conferences. In addition, Worthington publishes an Interfaith Witness newsletter, The Clarke County Candle. The need to understand occult groups and how to witness to the people involved in them

has become paramount in recent years. "I know that we have enlightened some folks on these subjects," Worthington said, "and I hope that they can share the burden that we in the Interfaith Witness work feel for the souls that are enslaved by cults and the occult groups."

The conference was ended by a half-hour session led by Worthington and the rest of the staff on "spiritual warfare and how we can win those ensnared by the occult." Other staff members, James Harris, pastor of Desoto Church, and Ferrell Morris, pastor of First Church, Shubuta, recently returned from the area at a conference sponsored by the Home Mission Board.

Baptist Record

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NASHVILLE, TN 37203

March 7, 1991

Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205